FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-231
Wednesday
2 December 1987

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-231 CONTENTS *02 December 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 December Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi Interior Minister Addresses Conference *[SPA]* 2
    Kuwaiti Minister Speaks *[KUNA]* 2

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Glider Attack, PLO-Arab Ties *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 2

ARAB AFRICA

Chad

Reportage on Visit by Islamic Front Party 6
    Delegation Arrives 6
    Visits UNIR Headquarters 6
    Meets Armed Forces Commissioner 6
Habre Decorates French 'Sparrowhawk' Commander 6

Egypt

Israeli Soldier Patroling Border Injured 6
    Further on Shooting *[Beirut]* 6
    'Abd al-Majid Comments 7
Paper Reveals Information on Revolution Group *[Beirut AL-SHIRA' 30 Nov]* 7
Students Protest Intervention in Elections *[AL-SHA'B 25 Nov]* 8
    Islamic Groups Win Majority *[AL-WAFD 27 Nov]* 9

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses General People's Congress 9
Comparison of Al-Qadhdhafi Interview on Issues 30

Mauritania

11 Receive Death Sentence for Plotting Coup *[Libreville Africa No 1]* 31
Paper Urges 'True Dialogue' Between Races *[AFP]* 31

Sudan

Egyptian Premier Makes Khartoum Stopover 31
    On Al-Mahdi, Mengistu Meeting 32
Sanadah on Eritrea 'Problem,' Ethiopian Clash 32
Communist Head Urges 'Recapture' of Kurmuk 32
Supreme Court Approves May Plotters Verdict 33

Tunisia

Government Adopts New Measures on Religion 33
PUP Leader Meets Baccouche, Pledges Support 33
MTI's Mourrou on 'Recent Change,' Ben Ali *[Amman AL-LIWA' 25 Nov]* 34

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Oil Minister Denies Reported OPEC Price Hike 37

PDRY

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Ba'th Delegation 37
  Arrives for Talks *[Damascus]* 37
  Al-Ahmar Received by Al-Bid *[Damascus]* 38
  Cooperation Protocol Signed 38

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Denies OPEC To Raise Prices 38
Cabinet Adopts 'Decisive Stands' on Iran Acts 38
Pakistan's Junejo Arrives on Official Visit 39

YAR

Salih Cables PDRY Leaders on National Day 39

IRAQ

President Addresses Martyrs' Families 1 Dec 40
President Visits Martyr Monument, Basra Front 40
Foreign Minister Reiterates Commitment to 598 *[London AL-TADAMUN 28 Nov]* 40
'General Amnesty' Granted to Expatriates *[WAKH]* 41
Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations 41
  Iranian Losses Detailed 41
  Communique No 2,936 42

ISRAEL

Egyptian Comments on 'Routine' Border Incident 43
  'Abd al-Majid Remarks 43
  Peres Briefs Knesset 43
  Peres Comments on Shooting 43
  Further Peres Remarks 43
  YEDI'OT AHARONOT Editorial *[2 Dec]* 44
Egyptian Tabah Delegation Arrives for Talks *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 1 Dec]* 44
Syria's Return to Terrorist Practices Noted 44
Arms Deal Signed With FRG During Rabin Visit 45
  Soltam Director Denies Deal 45
Greek Foreign Minister Continues Visit, Talks 45
  Consults With Shamir *[Athens]* 45
  Discusses MIA's in Lebanon 46
  AL-NAHAR Editorial on Visit *[30 Nov]* 46
Finland Offers Shahal Soviet Oil Surpluses 46
PLO Participating in Talks on Exports to EEC *['AL HAMISHMAR 30 Nov]* 46
Criticism of F-16 Purchase Seen Unwarranted *[MA'ARIV 30 Nov]* 47
Muslims To Be Allowed 'Mini' Mecca Pilgrimage 47
'Turkish' Vessel Reportedly Released *[MA'ARIV 30 Nov]* 47
SLA Soldier Killed by 'Terrorists' 1 Dec 47

Jerusalem Court Rejects Vanunu Acquittal Appeal 47
Eytan Granted One-Man Knesset Faction Status 47
Kahane To Be Charged With Racist Incitement 48
Rafah Resident Under Administrative Detention 48
  Balatah Residents Detained 48

LEBANON

Letter Bomb Sent to British Envoy in Beirut *[VOL]* 49
  Envoy Said Out of Country *[VOL]* 49
  No Explosives Found *[VOL]* 49
Al-Huss Sends Messages to Gorbachev, Reagan 49
Reconciliation Issue Ruled Out on Summit Agenda *[RFL]* 49
President al-Jumayyil Returns From Paris 1 Dec *[RFL]* 49
FRG Ambassador on Relations, Aid Granted 49
Israel Reportedly To Supply Lahd With Vessels 50
120 Lebanese Depart for Libya To Fight Chad *[RFL]* 50
Syrians Kidnap 2 Internal Security Corporals *[VOL]* 50
Bomb Discovered Under Deputy Michel Sasin's Car *[VOL]* 50
Al-Jumayyil Visits Security Directorate 50
Sa'adah Addresses Party Anniversary Rally *[VOL]* 50
Birri Reveals Muslim Candidate for President *[RFL]* 51
Parliament Extends Term of Office Until 1990 51
Newspapers To Reduce Size, Number of Editions 51
4 Lahd Militiamen Reported Killed in South 51
Amal Reacts to Lahd Allegations on Detainees 51
Amal, Lebanese Forces Exchange Prisoners *[RFL]* 52
Resistance Attack Patrols, Radar Emplacement 52

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Najibullah Gives Grand Assembly Closing Speech 53
Supreme Soviet Sends Message to Najibullah 59
Protest Made to Pakistan Over Missile Attack 60
Mujahidin Attacks Launched in Khowst, Konar 60

Bangladesh

Protest Lodged Over BBC 'Baseless' Report 60
  Zahid Expresses 'Regret' 61
More Opposition Leaders Released 1 Dec *[BBC]* 61
3 Injured in University Clashes; Bombs Seized *[AFP]* 62
Curfew Hours Relaxed in Dhaka, Other Cities 62

Iran

Tehran Claims U.S. Base in Kuwait Planned 62
Saudi Expulsion of Pakistani Troops Noted 62
Khamene'i, Montazeri Meet, Discuss War Issues 62
  Khamene'i on U.S. Vulnerability 63
President Khamene'i on 'D-Day' Sacred Defense 63
Prosecutor General Addresses Mohammad Corps 63
Musavi Addresses Departing Battalions 64
Foreign Ministry Statement on Palestinians 65
Khamene'i Receives Lebanese Muslim Officials 65
Oil Minister Views OPEC Meeting Prospects 65
Velayati Receives Departing Italian Ambassador 66
  Meets With Australian Envoy 66
Mo'ayeri, Sudanese Ambassador Discuss Relations 66

Mo'ayeri Assails French 'Propaganda' 66
Military Training for Qom Seminary Clergy 67
SAIRI Members Affirm Readiness To Fight Iraq 67
Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue 67
    Iraqis Pounded in 'Nasr-9' Zone 67
    Communique No 3,037 67
    IRGC, Kurds Destroy Power Station 68
    Iraqi Positions in Sumar Bombed 68
Tudeh Party Issues Statement on War 68
    Part I *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* 68
    Part II *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* 69
    Final Part *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* 71

2 December Middle East and South Asia Review

LD021409 [Editorial Report]

Israel-Egypt Border Incident

An Israeli soldier was slightly injured when an IDF patrol was attacked by grenades and gunfire from Egyptian territory near the security fence north of Rafah, according to a military statement cited by IDF radio. The incident occurred when the patrol was checking a hole in the fence, the radio noted, adding that footprints to and from the fence were found on the Egyptian side. Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres subsequently stated that Israel holds Egypt responsible for the incident, but he said Israel believes that Egypt is treating the matter with "appropriate gravity," according to Jerusalem radio.

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid described the incident as an "accident," MENA reported, and he said its importance should not be exaggerated. Such things can happen any time, and the incident will not affect Egyptian-Israeli relations, he maintained. Noting that the attack on the IDF patrol was carried out by "unidentified individuals," MENA said a "responsible source" promised that the Egyptian authorities will hold an investigation into the incident.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian aircraft bombed Iraqi targets in the central sector 2 December, inflicting casualties on Iraqi troop concentrations in the Sumar area, IRNA announced.

A report was submitted to Iran's State Scientific Research Council 1 December on the "successful testing of a new surface-to-surface ballistic missile manufactured by the Defense Industries Organization," Tehran radio reported. The Council heard that the first series of these missiles will shortly be "placed at the disposal of the battlefronts."

French-Iranian Relations

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by AFP confirmed that the financial dispute with Iran is heading for a "final settlement," noting that France may soon pay a new advance on the outstanding sum. The French Foreign Ministry also denied a UK press report that France has agreed to supply Iran with spare parts for missile boats and radar guidance systems, the agency added.

Iraqi Amnesty

A general amnesty has been granted to all Iraqis living abroad who are wanted for investigation or who have been sentenced by the courts, WAKH reported citing an announcement from Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim at the Al-Mirbad Poetry Festival.

Oil Politics

Iranian-Saudi Dispute—Current instability in the oil market is caused by the "irresponsible and tension-creating moves" of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other GCC states, Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh claimed at a press conference reported by IRNA. He accused these countries of deliberately glutting the market and denied "unfounded accusations" that Iran is selling oil at a discount. In response, Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Nazir told SPA that Iran is seeking to raise OPEC official prices while continuing to discount its own oil in an attempt to prevent other OPEC producers from marketing their oil. Iran began exceeding its OPEC production quota last May and is offering price reductions "constantly and openly," Nazir said.

Iraqi Pipelines—Iraqi Oil Minister 'Abd al-Rahim al-Shalabi told Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* that Iraq has held no contact or dialogue with Syria regarding the reopening of Iraq's pipeline through Syria, KUNA reported. He said Iraq is currently occupied with completing the second stage of its pipeline through Saudi Arabia, a project which is due for completion in 1989 and is expected to restore Iraq's export capacity to its prewar level.

Sudan

Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam have agreed to meet for talks on issues of security and goodneighborliness, according to an announcement by Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi reported by MENA. The Egyptian premier, who stopped over in Khartoum en route home from Addis Ababa, was speaking after a closed session with Al-Mahdi. In a statement to *Al-Ayyam* reported by SUNA, Foreign Minister Ma'mun Sanadah reaffirmed that Sudan is not giving military support to the Eritrean rebels, and he declared that the Eritreans in Sudan are refugees. The minister noted that during his forthcoming trip to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, he will brief officials on Ethiopia's role in the Kurmuk conflict.

Syria-Romania

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu signed an agreement for the "long-term development" of economic, technical, and commercial cooperation, AGERPRES reported. The agency also noted that the two presidents expressed "satisfaction" with the outcome of their talks which took place in an "atmosphere of warm friendship, mutual esteem, and understanding."

Afghanistan

The Afghan Foreign Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge to receive a note which "strongly" protested 28 November missile attacks on border posts at Lowyah Dakkah and Towr Kham, Nangarhar Province, where two people were killed and eight others injured, Kabul radio reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi Interior Minister Addresses Conference
LD011837 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1413 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tunis, 1 Dec (SPA)—The sixth session of the Arab Interior Ministers Council began in Tunis today. His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior and the Council's honorary chairman, delivered an opening speech in which he conveyed greetings to the Council from the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and his wishes of success and good luck to the meeting of the Arab interior ministers. On behalf of the Arab Interior Ministers Council, Prince Mayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz addressed his thanks and consideration to His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Republic of Tunisia, and to his government and the Tunisian people for their hospitality.

The minister of the interior also expressed his pride in the efforts and the tangible results brought about by the meetings of the Arab Interior Ministers Council within the framework of fraternal cooperation, serious work, and sincere determination.

The prince praised the perfect coordination existing between organs of the Council's member states which seek to provide stability and safety and construct a strong barrier against crime on a firm scientific basis. Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that the reality of crime requires concerted efforts, the intensification of activities, and adjustment of the means for confronting crime. He said the first of these means was adherence to Islamic shari'ah, in faith, interaction, and behavior. His highness added that achieving this would prevent individuals from falling into crime and would protect society against the dangers of crime.

His highness went on to say that by adherence to Islam the entire nation would be assisting the security forces as it would support what is right and forbid what is wrong. Thus, God's words—you are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong—would come true. His highness concluded his speech by asking Almighty God to ensure the success of the Council's meetings by unifying stands and fulfilling hopes.

Kuwaiti Minister Speaks
LD012309 Kuwait KUNA in English 1706 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tunis, Dec 1 (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad Tuesday welcomed any Arab gathering aimed at realizing benefit for the Arab nation and called for a thorough and meticulous reading of the Arab interior ministers agenda items in view of their importance and gravity under the prevalent Arab conditions. The minister, who was speaking during the first closed-door working session held by 19 Arab interior ministers here, wished the conference success in tackling issues tabled before it.

Arab ministers, with the exception of Lebanon, held an inaugural session earlier today which was followed by a camera session only attended by their close aides. The wide-ranging agenda includes, among other things, topics like overall Arab security and the fight against illict drug trafficking, administrative corruption, crime and alien cultural invasion. The first closed-door working session was ended this evening under Bahraini interior minister, with no details filtering out.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Glider Attack, PLO-Arab Ties
JN012008 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1745 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Telephone interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Addis Ababa by Antoine Nawfal, Radio Monte Carlo news director; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Nawfal] Good evening, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The Palestinian arena is eventful. The latest incident has been the hoisting of the Palestinian flag over PLO headquarters in Cairo. What does this event signify?

['Arafat] No doubt this is a great stand by brother President Husni Mubarak, which we greatly appreciate. The president has taken this initiative on his own. Yesterday, he ordered the reopening of the PLO offices so that the Palestinian flag would again fly in the skies of beloved Cairo. This demonstrates the eagerness of President Muabarak, the Egyptian officials, and the Egyptian people to put Palestine always in their hearts and conscience.

[Nawfal] Does this mean opening all the offices in Cairo?

['Arafat] I really do not know the details. However, yesterday, when I was in Aden to participate in their celebrations, I was informed of this brief news. I sent for all the details of this issue.

[Nawfal] Can we regard this measure as a restoration of normal relations between the PLO and Egypt in the same way as the restoration of relations between Egypt and some Arab states?

['Arafat] No. We are not connected with other Arab states. As you know, I have been visiting Cairo since 1983. Our offices have always been open. Something happened to disturb the atmosphere and, thank God, this has proved to be only a passing summer cloud.

When I met with President Mubarak in Addis Ababa, from where I am talking to you now, he promised me that he would reopen the offices and he has honored his word as the noble, struggling man he is.

[Nawfal] Do you not fear that this measure will be regarded as a violation of the recent Algiers PNC resolution?

['Arafat] Do you mean to say that you were with us at the PNC session?

[Nawfal] No, I was not, but it was said you would get close to Egypt in the same measure as Egypt would get further away from Camp David.

[Arafat] Your behavior is very odd, Brother Antoine. [laughter]. (?What are you talking about?) This is a brotherly Egyptian initiative for which we are very grateful.

[Nawfal] Another question, Abu 'Ammar. Do you not believe that this open, declared, and obvious rapprochement...

['Arafat, interrupting] [Words indistinct amid laughter]

[Nawfal] Do you not think such an open, declared, and obvious rapprochement with Cairo will increase the denunciation of the so-called Palestinian right by some Palestinian factions?

['Arafat] I reject your question because the PLO Executive Committee issued a resolution on Egypt. This should be very clear. As you know, following the Arab summit, a decision was made to send a Palestinian delegation to Egypt. We appreciate this great initiative by President Mubarak, especially as it comes before the arrival of the Palestinian delegation.

[Nawfal] Abu 'Ammar, I asked this question because the PFLP-GC has exploited the Qibyah operation in Upper Galilee politically and has denounced what it called the Palestinian right and so on. In any case, what is your opinion of this operation?

['Arafat] If you are disturbed by such a word, events have proven who the rightists are and who the leftists are. It is our people who decided who the leftists are and who the rightists are and not an impostor there or an impostor here. We are presently in our position not as a result of a favor from this or that country or a decision by this or that intelligence organ. In our Palestinian arena, we have a democracy of which we are proud. Those who do not like our democracy can go and drink the sea.

[Nawfal] Some Palestinian factions call for rectifying ties with Syria. How are your relations with Damascus today? Amid current Arab and international circumstances, are these relations improving?

['Arafat] You know there is also a PNC decision on this issue. I do not know, but you seem to forget some decisions and to remember others, dear Antoine. Another PNC decision was made to turn over a new leaf with our Syrian brothers. We received from them two memoranda before the recent extraordinary Amman Arab summit conference. We replied to them in two similar memoranda. During the Amman summit, there was an opportunity to exchange remarks with brother President al-Asad during the brief tripartite meeting in the presence of brother President Chadli Bendjedid. During this meeting, brother President al-Asad blessed the agreement which was reached in Algiers and which approved the Sidon agreement concerning the Palestinian camps. I thanked the brother president for his good gesture and we agreed to continue good contacts. The same thing happened between Brother Faruq Qaddumi [Abu al-Lutf] and Brother Faruq al-Shar'. We agreed to continue our contacts after the Arab summit.

[Nawfal] Yet there is still tension in the camps on this issue. Do you think that this tension, which continues despite the agreement, will end soon?

['Arafat] I hope that any anarchy will be unintentional or will be carried out by unruly elements, especially in view of brother President al-Asad's blessing of this agreement. I am also sure that President al-Asad will exert his utmost to remove all obstacles impeding this agreement so that we can implement it and end for all time the camps tragedies.

[Nawfal] The PLO, as well as Palestinian factions and figures, have commented on the Qibyah operations carried out in Israel recently. Can you tell our listeners your views on this operation?

['Arafat] Can you tell me what operation you refer to?

[Nawfal] The operation which the Palestinians carried out inside Israel recently.

['Arafat] Every day the Palestinians...

[Nawfal, interrupting] No, the major operation, the Qibyah operation in Upper Galillee.

['Arafat] Hardiy a day passes without... [changes thought] If there is a news blackout, we hope that you do not participate in it.

[Nawfal] No, never.

['Arafat] May God forgive you in any case. There are operations every day. There are operations in Gaza, the West Bank, the Negev, and the Galilee, and everywhere. There are operations also in southern Lebanon. What operation do you mean?

[Nawfal] The Qibyah operation in Upper Galilee which was carried out by two gliders.

['Arafat] Oh yes, the glider operation. I consider this a message to Israeli arrogance. We are telling them that there is no army that can stand against the fedayeen from the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces. There are no obstacles, resolutions, security forces, or radars that can stand in the face of a fedayeen who has made up his mind to sacrifice his life for his people and nation. The Israeli rulers and those behind them should understand that this Palestinian revolution is here to stay and to emerge victorious.

[Nawfal] This operation was carried out by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces?

['Arafat] You should remember that every Palestinian fighter is still part of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces, regardless of whether all of them are Palestinian or all of them are Lebanese. You should know that so far there is nothing that can prevent or stop this blood from flowing together. This united blood, this solidarity, this revolutionary cohesion is unparalleled . The Lebanese brothers shared with us our pains. Therefore, I salute them from the bottom of my heart.

[Nawfal] Let us go back to politics. Judging by your latest visit to Moscow and the letter of support you received on Palestinian solidarity day, do you think Moscow is now amending its Middle East policy?

['Arafat] The Soviet stand was clear. However, some U.S. and Israeli media tried to impose a blackout on this issue and to confuse it. The Soviet stand was from the beginning in support of the Palestinian people, their struggle, and the PLO. The Soviet Union has always supported the recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights. The Soviet Union demands the convocation of an effective international conference under UN auspices in which the five permanment members of the UN Security Council, all the parties to the dispute in the region, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, participate on an equal footing. Perhaps you remember that during my presence in Moscow, the Soviet side said taht the PLO is the principal party in the Arab-Israeli conflict and in the Middle East conflict. This stand is unswerving. On behalf of the Palestinian people, the PLO, and the Palestinian revolutionaries, I greet and thank this great friend, the Soviet Union.

[Nawfal] King Husayn will visit Moscow soon. Do you think his visit will contribute to increasing the chances of success for an international conference on the Middle East?

['Arafat] We hope so. His majesty informed me about this visit at the meeting I had with him on the 2d day of the recent summit conference. As I have already said, while I was in Moscow they told me that King Husayn would visit Moscow. I hope this visit, as all the other visits Arab leaders make, will bring about further progress toward convening an international conference, which should secure Palestinian rights and not just put them on record.

[Nawfal] What point has dialogue with Jordan reached?

['Arafat] Brother Antoine, you and I had a discussion in the past and I informed you about the details of the reconciliation that took place during the summit. Following the summit, a lengthy meeting was held between the Palestinian and Jordanian delegations in my presence and that of His Majesty King Husayn. We agreed to pursue the dialogue through a Palestinian-Jordanian joint committee. At its recent meeting in Baghdad, the PLO Executive Committee adopted this dialogue and this trend from the premise of the PNC resolutions. Our delegation has been formed to initiate this dialogue. We hope a meeting will take place as soon as possible, God willing.

[Nawfal] This is a question I was unable to put to you immediately following the Amman summit. Are you really satisfied with the results of this summit?

['Arafat] Yes, I am completely satisfied. You must not forget that prior to the summit and during my trips and press statements I explicitly announced what I wanted. When they asked what I wanted from the summit I told them I wanted specific things. First, the reaffirmation of previous Arab summit resolutions, particularly those from the Fes summit, that emphasized the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian national soil with Jerusalem as its capital and under the leadership of the PLO. Another thing is an explicit Arab stand on the international conference. What I wanted from the summit was very clear. Therefore, I am glad that the summit reaffirmed that the Palestinian cause is the Arab nation's central cause and that the Palestinian cause is the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The summit also reaffirmed the resolutions of the Arab summits, particularly the Fes summit resolutions, the stand on an international conference, and the need to support our people's struggle in the occupied territories, southern Lebanon, and the Golan Heights.

[Nawfal] Abu 'Ammar, if someone asks you at this specific moment which of the two conflicts should be settled first, the Gulf conflict or the Arab-Israeli conflict, what would you say?

['Arafat] Brother Antoine, I reject this question in its present form. There is nothing more important than the first of the two Kiblahs and the third Holy Place, the land from which Prophet Muhammad ascended to Heaven and the land where Christ was born. There is nothing that is more important than this. That's why our brothers in the Gulf, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia who are suffering from this war have been the ones who have insisted that the Palestinian cause remain the central cause of the summit. However, I would like to tell them that in exchange we are dutybound to silence Iran, which is in the Gulf, so that all the guns may be used for liberating Jerusalem, God willing.

[Nawfal] Abu 'Ammar, I think you have just said the right thing. Thank you.

Chad

Reportage on Visit by Islamic Front Party

Delegation Arrives

AB282145 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] A delegation of the Sudanese National Islamic Front of Mr Hassan al-Turabi arrived in our capital this morning. The delegation, which is led by Yasin 'Umar al-Imam, vice chairman of the party, includes Flight General (Alfa Tiabum), chairman of the Khartoum section of the party and member of the Executive Bureau; Mahd Ibrahim Mohammad, member of the Executive Bureau in charge of foreign relations; and (Asaq Immurabi), party secretary general. The delegation was welcomed on its arrival by Mahamat Iboum, UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] Executive Bureau commissioner for foreign relations; [name indistinct], deputy commissioner; and Udman Issa and Kousha Migoudi, first vice chairman and secretary general of the National Consultative Council, respectively.

The National Islamic Front maintains very good relations with the UNIR. These strong ties are exemplified by the recent visit of Adoum Sako to Sudan, where he met with the party's chairman at the party headquarters. Our movement also maintains good relations with a certain number of Sudanese political parties. This visit by the Sudanese delegation occurs 1 week after the violent fighting between the FANT and the Libyan aggressor forces in the Koulbous region, along the border with Sudan.

Visits UNIR Headquarters

AB291924 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] The National Islamic Front delegation that arrived yesterday and officials of our national movement, the UNIR, held a working session this morning at the UNIR Headquarters. The Sudanese delegation was led by Yasin 'Umar al-Imam, its vice chairman, while the UNIR delegation was led by Mahamat Iboum, commissioner of the Executive Bureau in charge of foreign relations.

When the meeting concluded, the leader of the Sudanese delegation stated that his visit is aimed at strengthening the ties between the Sudanese and Chadian peoples, as well as between the two movements. In referring to the partisan attitude of the Sudanese Government in the Chad-Libya conflict, Yasin 'Umar al-Imam affirmed that the National Islamic Front will never allow a neighboring country to be attacked through Sudan. He added that his movement will do everything possible to help find a solution to regional problems through dialogue.

Meets Armed Forces Commissioner

AB021509 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The Sudanese delegation led by the deputy secretary general of the National Islamic Front and which arrived in Ndjamena on 28 November is continuing its talks with our various political officials. It has met with Youssouf Sidi, deputy executive secretary of the UNIR. This morning, the three members of the National Islamic Front delegation paid a courtesy call to Idriss Debri, commissioner of the Armed Forces at the Executive Bureau of the UNIR. During their discussions, the two sides held an extensive review of the relations between the UNIR and the Sudanese National Islamic Front.

Habre Decorates French 'Sparrowhawk' Commander

AB012114 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Excerpt] El Hadj Hissein Habre, president of the Republic, decorated Colonel Jean Menu, commander of the French "Sparrowhawk" operation in Chad, this morning at the presidential palace. Col Menu's tour of duty in our country has now come to an end. The head of state expressed his gratitude to Col Menu for his own loyal service and the help given to the nation through the assistance given to the FANT. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Israeli Soldier Patroling Border Injured

NC012102 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2047 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA)—A soldier in an Israeli patrol was slightly injured when the patrol was inspecting the border between Egypt and Israel near Rafah last night. Some as yet unidentified individuals opened fire on the Israeli patrol as it was passing near the border between Egypt and Israel. A member of the patrol was slightly injured.

A responsible source has described the incident as normal, saying that such things do occur sometimes. The source added that the competent authorities will undertake an investigation to ascertain the details of the incident.

Further on Shooting

NC011526 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Egyptian sources have announced that an Israeli soldier was wounded in a shooting incident on the border in northern Sinai last night. According to the sources, the incident began when a man cut the wire fence on the border in the town of Rafah, entered the occupied sector, and threw a bomb.

The sources said that an Israeli border guard was wounded in a brief exchange of fire between Israeli soldiers and unidentified gunmen. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Comments

NC011954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1934 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that the incident which took place at dawn today on the Egyptian-Israeli border near Rafah was an accident, that its importance should not be exaggerated, and that it does not have any other dimensions. He added that the incident has no significance and such things can happen at any time. He said that the incident will not affect Egyptian-Israeli relations.

An Israeli soldier was injured when shots were fired near the border north of Rafah.

Paper Reveals Information on Revolution Group

NC011144 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 30 Nov 87 p 9

[Unattributed article: "How the CIA Uncovered Egypt's Revolution"]

[Text] Interrogation of arrested members of Egypt's Revolution Organization has revealed that the group includes military men, intelligence officers, an officer in the Republican Guard, and civilians, two of whom are doctors. One doctor is the son of Shawqi 'Abd al-Nasir, the brother of late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir. The other doctor is the son of Husayn al-Shafi'i, former member of the Revolution Command Council and former vice president. The two doctors left Egypt before they could be arrested.

Al-Shira' has also learned that during the second week of November, the state security prosecutor summoned 'Abd al-Hakim 'Abd al-Nasir and 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abd al-Nasir to question them about their relationship with the organization. However, nothing was proved against them and the security authorities did not take any measures against them. Moreover, there is no truth to the rumors that members of the 'Abd al-Nasir family have been prevented from leaving the country, nor is it true that Egypt's Revolution is connected with any group, regime, or party, whether inside or outside Egypt. What has been proved so far is that the group had been financed solely by Khalil 'Abd al-Nasir and Mahmud Nur al-Din, who owns a large contracting office.

As to how the security authorities were able to point a finger to Egypt's Nasirite Organization, *Al-Shira'* has learned that there had been a basic rule that governed the organization; namely, that there are only two levels of mistakes.

A mistake of the first level happens within the organization and among its members and this can be tolerated and even accepted. A mistake of the second level is committed by a member of the organization outside the framework of the organization, and this cannot be tolerated. Mahmud Nur al-Din saw in the behavior of his brother Salah Nur al-Din, a member of the organization, a grave danger to the security of the organization. He, therefore, tried to shoot him, hitting him with two bullets. Salah Nur al-Din, however, did not die and was able to escape and take refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, giving further proof of the reasons for which he was shot.

Salah Nur al-Din spent approximately 50 days at the U.S. Embassy, during which time he gave a detailed confession on what he knows about Egypt's Revolution. He revealed this information under the supervision of investigators from the CIA and the Zionist Mossad.

It seems that in seeking to fill in some of the gaps in their information, the CIA officials contacted the Egyptian authorities, warning them that the members of this organization have infiltrated the Security Services and the Army.

The authorities decided to form a three-man committee composed of President Husni Mubarak, Usamah al-Baz, and Mahmud al-Faqiy, who is an adviser to Mubarak. A foolproof plan was devised for observing the movements of Mahmud Nur al-Din and some intelligence officers, who used to work in the counter-Israeli sections, and who were also under suspicion.

It was decided to assign this mission to a unit drawn from the Presidential Security Services. A member of this unit tried to contact Mahmud Nur al-Din in an attempt to join the organization. However, his attempt failed. The security authorities then decided to raid the office of Mahmud Nur al-Din in Heliopolis and in another house in Shubra. During the raid, which took place on 24 September, the Security Services arrested an unknown number of people. According to some reports, 13-18 people were arrested.

As for Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir, he had left for London 2 weeks before the organization was uncovered. He stayed in London for a while and then left for Yugoslavia, although Scotland Yard men had assured him that Her Majesty's Government welcomes him in the country but cannot guarantee his safety, especially in view of the fact that he is on the Mossad's wanted list.

To Whom it May Concern [subhead]

Al-Shira' can confirm that the 18 defendants referred for trial by the Egyptian authorities on charges of communicating with Libya have no connection, direct or indirect, with the "Egypt's Revolution" Organization. In a previous edition, *Al-Safir* published extensive details on this organization and on Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir's relationship with it. The group of 18 is headed by Dr Salah al-Dusuqi, who is a professor at the American University in Cairo. The group, consisting of civilians, students, and workers, has been working alone for some time, while members of Egypt's Revolution are mostly drawn from the Army and the intelligence services. Egypt's Revolution carried out most of the operations against U.S. and Israeli interests in Egypt. It has no connection whatsoever with any Arab regime.

When Will Khalid Return? [subhead]

Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir has decided to return to Egypt the moment the state security prosecutor completes his investigation of Egypt's Nasirite Revolution Organization and the judiciary receives the file on the case.

An Assassination Attempt on Khalid in London [subhead]

Two days before leaving London, Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir was the target of an unsuccessful assassination attempt. A car had been booby-trapped with an explosive device that would be triggered by remote control.

Egypt's "Nasirite" Organization [subhead]

All the statements issued by Egypt's Revolution were signed under the name of "Egypt's Nasirite Revolution Organization." The media tried to ignore this, using only the name Egypt's Revolution.

Ahmad Baha' al-Din Confirms *Al-Shira'* Report [subhead]

In its 292d edition, dated 26 October 1987, *Al-Shira'* wrote that Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir was the leader of Egypt's Revolution Organization. On 25 November 1987, Egyptian columnist Ahmad Baha' al-Din, asked by foreign journalists about this, confirmed that Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir was involved in the assassination of Israeli diplomats and would stand trial. This will cause great embarrassment because he is the son of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir. Meanwhile, threatening legal prosecution, the Egyptian authorities have banned the publication of any reports on Egypt's Revolution. Therefore, Ahmad Baha' al-Din would not have said anything on the subject without first being given permission by the authorities to do so.

Mubarak and Abu Ghazalah Visit Members of Egypt's Revolution in Prison [subhead]

Al-Shira' has learned the reason for the news blackout that the security services imposed on the investigations of the arrested members of Egypt's Nasirite Organization. They are afraid that any publication of the aims, principles, and nature of the operations of the organization would only publicize that there are a great number of possibilities for penetrating the security services and the Army. This in turn might encourage others to emulate Egypt's Nasirite Organization. President Mubarak has ordered that the investigations be held in complete secrecy because of the sensitivity of the subject and the delicate status of the organization's members. He and Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah visited the members of the organization in prison together.

Students Protest Intervention in Elections

PM301247 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Nov 87 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Continuing Clashes Between Security Forces and Students: Hundreds of Student Candidates Excluded and Many Others Detained"]

[Text] A massive wave of unrest and demonstrations has swept various Egyptian universities for the fifth week in succession, amid an atmosphere charged with tension and resentment due to the blatant interventions of the police and university administrations in the recent student elections, the rise in tuition fees in some faculties, the increase in university residence fees, and the continuing police harassment of Islamic group members and politically and ideologically active students. Labor Party People's Assembly committee member Mahmud Nafi' submitted a request to the interior and education ministers to divulge information concerning the reasons for excluding students of intellectual and nationalist ideological tendencies from nomination to the student unions.

At 'Ayn Shams University, Business Faculty Cultural Committee Chairman Dr Ihab Nadim submitted his resignation in protest of the pressures employed by the faculty's administration and the police to exclude 50 candidates, the majority of whom belong to the Al-Shuruq Society. The faculty dean ordered it to be disbanded, accusing its members of being behind the escalation of student incidents inside the faculty.

At the Law Faculty, current union President 'Ala' 'Amir threatened a sit-in inside the university president's office in protest of the exclusion of more than a third of the student candidates in the elections. Ninety candidates were also excluded in the Arts Faculty, most of whom are members of Islamic groups.

At Alexandria University, members of the university staff issued a statement protesting the blatant interference by security and police forces in university affairs. They sent a telegram to the education minister urging that student demands for the restoration of the 1976 list be met. They also formed a committee to look into the conditions of detained university students. Last Tuesday the university was swept by demonstrations protesting the huge number of student union candidates who have been excluded, the detention of a number of students, and attacks on and abuse of a number of others by university guards.

Al-Minufiyah University was swept by violent demonstrations last week. The demonstrations were renewed last Saturday and Sunday, especially in the Shibin al-Kawn Engineering Faculty. Clashes took place between students and the security forces, who surrounded the faculty, detained 3 students, and prevented 11 other students from entering the university!

Tension, resentment, and student unrest also prevailed in the universities of Al-Zagazig, Tanta, Banha, Mansurah, and Suez following the intervention of security forces and university guards in the elections and the exclusion of those with ideological and political tendencies from nomination as candidates.

People's Assembly and Alliance member Mahmud Nafi' went to Mansurah University to meet with the university president and officials in order to investigate the reasons for the exclusion of students belonging to Islamic groups from nomination as candidates to the student unions. However, the security forces prevented him from entering the university. Therefore, he submitted a request to the interior and education ministers for the disclosure of information about the facts concerning the two incidents of the exclusion of candidates and his being prevented from meeting with university officials.

The Social Services Faculty at Shubra is still surrounded by large contingents of central security forces, following the faculty dean's decision to suspend classes for 10 days, the huge demonstrations which swept the faculty last week, and the student sit-in to protest the increase in tuition fees from 47 to 117 pounds. Despite the fact that the Al-Azbakiyah district attorney office released the students detained by the security organs, the Interior Ministry objected to the decision to free a number of them, who are so far still in detention. The faculty dean also passed a decision to refer all the students, those freed or those still in detention, who number 60 students, to a disciplinary board on charges of inciting riots and demonstrations, so that a decision can be taken to bar them from nomination as candidates to the student union—elections of which have been postponed indefinitely.

Islamic Groups Win Majority

JN301411 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 27 Nov 87 pp 1, 2

[Jihad 'Abd al-Mun'im and Mahjdi Hilmi dispatch]

[Text] The initial results of the student federations' elections in universities, colleges, and advanced institutes were announced yesterday. Members of Islamic groups won the majority of seats in the committees of all colleges and institutes. The success of the Islamic groups' members was evident at Cairo University, where they won 90 percent of the committees in various colleges. The also won with the same percentage in the Universities of 'Ayn Shams and Asyut. For the first time in the history of student elections the Islamic groups won in Al-Azhar University with 70 percent.

There was a reballoting last Wednesday because the 50 percent student quorum was not present. The students' boycott of the balloting is considered a protest against continuing the work in accordance with the 1979 regulations which deny the students' federation its objectives.

Tomorrow elections will take place to select separately a secretary and assistant secretary for the committee of each college in preparation for electing the secretary and assistant secretary of each university on Monday.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses General People's Congress

LD221745 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
0915 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the opening session of the General People's Congress at the People's Hall in Tripoli—live]

[Unidentified session chairman] In the name of God. First, it is a great honor to have the leader with us, the spark of the Great 1 September Revolution. [applause] The present generation is very lucky to be able to always hear the guidelines and teachings of the great leader. We are meeting here in the General People's Congress. Although we are meeting in a smaller number, we are not like other parliaments or parliamentary institutions. Each of us carries the resolution of his people's congress and brings it here to formulate it in a manner that will guarantee its inclusion in the general formulation of the resolutions of all the congresses.

The General People's Congress now consists of the secretariats of the General People's Congress, which are 5 in number; the secretariats of the people's congresses and municipalities, which number 65; the secretaries of the branches and their assistants, which number 130; the secretaries of the people's congresses in the municipalities, which number 39; the General People's Committee members, which number 11; the people's committees, which number 130; and the people's congresses abroad.

[Unidentified speaker] [Passage indistinct]

[Chairman] Yes, and the final conferences.

[Al-Qadhdahfi] [Passage indistinct]

[Chairman] Some of the Basic People's Congresses failed to attend because the secretaries of the branches and the assistant secretaries, the secretaries of the branch-...[changes thought] They are members of the municipal secretariats.

[Al-Qadhdahfi] In the name of God. At the start, I wish to affirm that my presence here is exceptional. It is not necessary for me to attend; however, I have come to make some remarks, particularly with regard to the formulation of the agenda in a manner that will emphasize the people's authority in the people's congresses, as well as some other issues. I mean that I have taken this opportunity of the General People's Congress meeting to formulate the agenda of the people's congresses to stress certain points that could be embodied in the agenda of the people's congresses.

From the beginning, we have said that the way the agenda of the people's congresses or the Basic People's Congresses...[sentence left incomplete] First, the Basic People's Congresses throughout the Jamahiriyah meet and begin to formulate their agenda. Every citizen raises his hand at his congress and is given the right to speak. He then proposes anything he wishes. He might say: I believe this and that should take place in the Jamahiriyah; our position should be so and so; the domestic and foreign policies should be so and so. In any area, a citizen may raise his hand and make his proposals for forwarding to the people's congresses throughout the Jamahiriyah so that they can be studied. The proposal made by any citizen at a Basic People's Congress is discussed first by the people's congress to which this citizen belongs. If approved, it is registered as an item in the agenda proposed by the Basic People's Congress concerned, which is one of about 1,000 or more congresses in the Jamahiriyah. Thus, every member of every Basic People's Congress can put forward any proposal to be embodied in the agenda. If his proposal is accepted by his own Basic People's Congress, then it becomes one of the items on the agenda of the Basic People's Congress to which he belongs.

The secretariat of the congress then formulates all the proposals adopted by the Basic People's Congress concerned and carries them here to the People's Hall. This is what is happening today. All the secretaries of the people's congresses are attending this meeting. They have brought with them the proposals of their congresses. At this time, it should...[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] Obviously, these proposals are sent to the secretariat that drafted them. But before they are sent to the General Secretariat, this congress does not know what other congresses have proposed. All these proposals emanate from the General Secretariat, and it seems that they are prepared before the convening of the congress. Then the General People's Congress meets, although it is not essential because the secretariat is able to carry out the drafting of these proposals. Anyway, like what is taking place in this session, each congress secretary has the proposals of his congress, which it believes should be a part of the agenda of the people's congress.

At this meeting, concord among these proposals from the Basic People's Congresses should be reached. In other words, if a citizen who is member of a Basic People's Congress proposes something that could be either adopted or rejected by the Basic People's Congress, then the same thing applies here in that every secretary of a congress puts forth the proposal of his congress, which should be discussed by the secretaries of the congresses within the General People's Congress. They may reject or adopt the proposal because it will become clear during the debates that a certain proposal has been discussed and implemented. Other congresses may think that a certain proposal is of a regional nature, or that it deals with a specific individual or a particular region, and could be discussed at its appropriate place. Therefore, it is not essential for the proposal to be included in the agenda of the Basic People's Congresses throughout the Jamahiriyah.

Any citizen in a Basic People's Congress may raise his hand and ask for the floor. He may say: I believe that this debate should be included on the agenda of this congress and should be submitted to all the people's congresses for adoption; I think that this proposal should be included. The congress discusses this proposal. It may turn it down, saying that this is a limited and personal opinion, influenced by a specific factor, or seen from an inadequate angle. Or the congress may adopt it, and see it as worthy of submission to the Basic People's Congresses. The same thing happens here in the session of the General People's Congress, when every secretary from every people's congress carries his congress' proposals to be placed on the agenda of the Basic People's Congresses in the Jamahiriyah. These proposals should be discussed here. The rest of the congresses may object to a proposal on the grounds that it emanates from a particular congress, as the members within the Basic People's Congresses may object to a proposal by a member within the same congress. They also may adopt it.

Sometimes a number of congresses may have the same proposal, which could be included in one single point. There may be a point that was discussed and looked into from various angles by all the people's congresses. When we add up all these views, this point becomes clear. A citizen in the Basic People's Congress can suggest anything without stating that a proposal is in his own interest or in the interest of a certain region. If he thinks that such a proposal is for his own good, then he suggests it even if he says that there is a landslide in a certain river which should be filled in because he sees that this landslide affects his farm. However, the whole Jamahiriyah cannot start discussing a landslide on a particular river; this is impossible. When his congress debates this issue, it will tell him: This point concerns us alone. The whole congress may adopt this view and include it on the agenda. When the agenda is put forth here, someone may say that this does not concern us; it does not concern the Jamahiriyah. Discuss this issue when you hold a congress of your own. As for the whole Jamahiriyah, to discuss a regional matter of particular interest to a specific region is impossible. There are sessions devoted to local issues throughout the year, whereas the final session, which takes place at the end of the year, is devoted to general issues related to the Jamahiriyah and its domestic and foreign policies.

Despite the fact that the present Jamahiri society was created by revolutionary force and comes under its control today, it has the right, by virtue of the revolution, to run the society as it wishes. It gained the leadership by force as a result of the revolution and not by agreement or reconciliation with other forces, which lost the right they had gained. It merely took this right from them by force. Nevertheless, as of the 6th anniversary of the revolution, the revolutionary force controls society and has the right to steer and mold it in whatever way it wishes. It seized control of society by force and not through agreement with any other side. The revolutionary force became the sole party to lead society. Despite this, the revolutionary force formed the opinion and subsequently proclaimed that as of its 6th anniversary, the leadership of the society under its control should provide it with a popular and Jamahiri leadership and that the transformation would take place democratically.

The revolutionary force, which assumed control of society and seized its leadership by force, had the power to steer society as a dictatorship if it so wished. However, the ideology of the revolutionary force that staged the revolution is as follows: It decided that the transformation from underdevelopment to progress should take place democratically and through the people. Therefore, the basic turning point in the march of the revolution was the 6th anniversary. This requires that the speech be retold so that we can go through it once again. It was the turning point in the construction of popular authority and democracy, and the social aspect on which the democratic and populist system is based.

This confirms the point that I would like to raise at the beginning, a point which has been raised before; namely, that the revolution is a proclamation of freedom. The revolution could have been a proclamation of dictatorship; it could have been a proclamation of a dictatorship for implementing a revolutionary program drawn up by the force that carried out the revolution. However, we have chosen this type; namely, freedom. Instead of being the proclamation of a dictatorship—that is, a dictatorial society led by the revolutionary force in order to implement its program for the sake of which the revolution broke out—the revolution was a proclamation of freedom. The people have become free and, consequently, they carry out what they believe democratically through free will.

Here the revolution became separate from authority. The revolutionary force that carried out the revolution moved outside of the authority structure. By marching on the royalist state, against which the revolution was aimed, the people were able to gain control of all the amenities, the popular congresses, and the popular committees. The popular congresses assumed sovereignty. They are the ones that make the decisions, while the popular committees implement those decisions under the supervision and control of the popular congresses. The revolutionary forces, the bases of which were later expanded, and the revolutionary committees movement have acquired the task of continually instigating the people to exercise authority.

What I would like to emphasize here is that the declaration of freedom should be examined. It is essential to state that if a people become free and do not carry out their responsibilities, then their future is endangered. Up to this day, we are still carried away by the declaration of freedom. We believe that there is somebody upon whom we can rely to achieve what we want. Such a feeling contradicts this declaration of freedom. If you feel that you are free, and you are in fact free, then you feel that you have a responsibility.

If you are a slave, however, then you have no sense of responsibility. The master who has enslaved you assumes responsibility for you and decides your destiny as he likes. If any flaw exists in this, it is the result of the overwhelming feelings of the freedom declaration and its misconception.

Now and then I personally become aware of this fact and I draw attention to the danger of this issue—the fact that the people are free. The declaration of freedom is a reality. We have no desire for authority. We do not want to implement the revolutionary program in a dictatorial way. The people should carry out all the tasks that in the past were performed by a government, a leadership, or official bodies.

Some people may think that these are mere words, but they will pay the price for this afterward. I believe that you have paid the price in a number of areas already as a result of our indifference and disbelief that this revolution is, in fact, a declaration of freedom. Sometimes you have paid dearly because of this and because of the danger that you may have to pay an extremely high price. I stand before you today to emphasize once again the declaration of freedom. [applause]

On the occasion of the festive celebration of the declaration of the people's authority last 2 March in Sabha, I told you something which you thought was said only because of that occasion. This is not true. It was not said mainly because of that occasion. That speech was very serious. I stressed the declaration of freedom. I told you that the Libyan people are free to decide what they deem fit, to live their lives as they wish, even if they desire the return of the monarchy or the republican regime, or the establishment of any form of political regime. I told you that it should not be written about us that we have imposed a specific choice on our people. Personally, my whole task is to ensure that history should not be written to show that I imposed a particular choice on the Libyan people or fit them into a particular mold.

On the contrary, history should show that if there was any mold, I have contributed toward its destruction. If there has been any shackle binding the Libyan people, I have participated in its demolition until the Libyan people have become free. Even if there is a sensitive point about the Green Book, there probably is no one who would dare to criticize it. This is wrong. We should dare to do so and to say no to this point. The Green Book is not sacred! What is more, if nothing can be put into practice from the Green Book, then why should we pay attention to it, theoretically speaking? If, in a practical sense, we cannot carry out the dictates of the Green Book or the revolutionary program, then we should not respect the formalities. We should not adhere to formalities if we are unable to adhere to the fundamentals of things. Upon returning to your congresses, I would like you to propose this issue for discussion.

We must no longer hear any citizen say: They have done this and that. They have failed to bring this or that thing about. They have embroiled us in this or that. May God bless them for doing this and that. Let us applaud them for this or that. We must no longer hear this. For who has embroiled you in this or that? Who has brought about this or that? Who has banned this or that? Who should be thanked for doing this or that? We no longer can accept such statements.

You may spend a year, 2 years, or even 3 years discussing the freedom declaration until you are sure that everything is in your hands. If anyone other than the people were to rule, then they should be those who have seized authority by force from the defunct regime. By seizing power by force, they therefore have the muscle to exercise authority. However, since they were convinced and pledged that authority should be vested in the people, there is no one else about whom we should complain. The pronoun they in your statement concerning those who have not brought this or that refers to whom? Who are the ones who have failed to bring about this or that? Who are those whom we want to thank for doing this or that? The pronoun they refers to whom? Who are they?

I want you now to return to your Basic People's Congresses and for these congresses to meet and discuss the question of the declaration of freedom. You should not discuss what this declaration of freedom is and relate what you come up with so that we may discuss it. No. I will tell you simply what the freedom declaration is: It is that you may return and discuss your entire destiny. You may begin from such matters as street-sweeping and determine whether or not it is your responsibility, whether you will entrust the task to a Korean company or to a Libyan company that you form for the purpose, or whether you will sweep the streets yourselves in rotation. You then move from the question of street-sweeping to the question of Aozou.

The freedom declaration means that you are free to determine your destiny. If you accept to concede Aozou, then concede it. Let the United States come and take it and build a base there. Or let the French come and take it. Or let NATO come and take it. Or let the Israelis come and take it. All this is likely to happen, but you must hold yourselves responsible.

Say this: We, the Libyan people, have discussed the matter and have decided to concede Aozou to the enemy alliance. Or you may say: We refuse to concede Aozou to the enemy alliance because to do so would constitute an extreme threat to the safety and security of Libyan territory, Arab territory, and North Africa. If the Libyan people were to surrender Aozou, they would be serving imperialism by giving it a strategic land mass which it can turn into a base in the African desert and in this place which imperialism never even dreamed of treading. If you say: We will not concede it to the enemy alliance, then you must prepare yourselves for the consequences of your refusal.

Have a look at the Gulf of Sidra. Bring the map. Look at the map and say: We, the Libyan people, with our own free will, have decided to concede the Gulf of Sidra with all the grave consequences this may involve. The one who enters the Gulf of Sidra can split Libya in two and carry out maneuvers inside Libyan territory. Banghazi and Misratah will remain behind him and he will have entered Libyan territory.

Any enemy force that enters the Gulf of Sidra can threaten the oil installations, the oil ports, and the oil fields because they all are situated in the Gulf of Sidra. Where is the oil located? The oil fields, from which we extract oil from beneath the ground, are situated in the area off the Gulf of Sidra. All the pipelines run to the Gulf of Sidra from Briga and Al-Zawiyah to Sidra and Ra's Lanuf. These are all in the Gulf. All the oil runs to these ports, be it from Al-Zawiyah, from Sidra, from Buruyqah, or from Ra's Lanuf. The oil is exported from these ports. The pipelines end at these ports and the oil storage tanks are at these ports. Oil is the only wealth you possess. The factories, the huge factories that rely on oil, are situated at the Gulf of Sidra. The one who enters the Gulf of Sidra can threaten these sensitive establishments, which contain the wealth of the Libyan people, the only source of income for the Libyan people.

You might say that because of its importance, for the reasons I have just related, you want to defend the Gulf of Sidra. You have decided not to concede it; however, you must then be prepared to defend it. You must take into consideration the fact that you and your children might die, not just that your neighbor might die. If you do not want to do so, then do not do so. You are free. It makes no difference to me. To me, it is an assertion of freedom that the people are free to decide to concede the Gulf of Sidra, or that they are free to decide to concede Aozou, and have done so of their own free will.

This is better than when you had a traitorous king or prime minister, Idris al-Sanussi and Mustafa ibn Halim, who sold Libyan territory to foreigners. Following the false independence, Idris al-Sanussi handed Libya to the United States and Britain for them to set up bases.

We thought that we had independence, but then we found the bases. Who signed the agreement to return the bases? Who among us signed the agreement concerning the Al-Mallahah base [former U.S. Wheelus Air Base] or the Al-'Adam base [former British base near Tubruq]? In our name they sold our land. Our fathers and forefathers were martyred for the sake of this land; they sacrificed their lives for the sake of its freedom. They sold it without our knowledge. Why? Because our affairs were left to those in authority; namely, Idris al-Sanussi. The Koranic verse—Obey God, the Prophet, and those in authority from among you—was posted everywhere.

What was the result of all that? The result was that we found Libya occupied. We fought the Italians for 20 years in order to prevent them from settling on Libyan territory. But after independence, the Americans, the Italians, and the British came.

You, however, can sign anything of your own free will. You are free to sign anything you want. If the entire Libyan people decide to have foreign bases, that will be great. They then cannot claim that someone sold the land in spite of them and no one will stage a revolution against such a situation because the entire people decided it. You are free. You can sign agreements on bases with the United States after holding discussions about them and finding that the best thing for you would be to have U.S. bases. You can do that. If the United States finds that it is in its interest to have bases in Libya and Libya accepts to have them, then that is all right since it will have been done by you of your own free will. Bring bases from the USSR, conclude a joint defense pact with the USSR, or have bases here or there because the United States threatens us, and you and they will be progressive, anti-imperialist forces. That is fine, provided you all sign such a thing. Then no one can protest. Who will protest?

If you all sign Aozou away, then no one can protest. If you concede the Gulf of Sidra, the same also will hold true. If you decide not to concede it, then that is that. However, you should be ready to implement your decision if you decide not to concede Aozou or the Gulf of Sidra.

I have given you examples, from the lowest level question—street-sweeping—to questions involving the Gulf of Sidra and the Aozou. But there are numerous other questions in between. There are the questions of the clothes you wear, the means of transportation you use, and the food you eat. You have to decide such matters. You say: Who brought these things into the market? Who decided to bring them?

I hold you responsible and ask that after this session has been concluded, the people's congresses meet and continue to meet for a month, 2, 3, or even 4 months until we make sure that all Libyan men and women have met at these congresses and have made the decisions they want. If you say: We want to buy silk only and endorse that, then that is the end of the matter. Take your money and buy silk. Who will carry out the purchase? Those you entrust with this task.

Everyone says that they are not happy with their clothes. They say that our clothes come from Yugoslavia and Romania. If the Yugoslav and Romanian clothes do not satisfy you, then go ahead and bring clothes from France and from Tel Aviv, but you must decide on this. Decide. If you want U.S. or French clothes, then decide on this. Say: We, the free Libyan people, have decided not to wear clothes other than those made in France and the United States. No one can object to this decision. Find out how much they cost and see how much money you have. As the bedouin saying goes: Count your money and act accordingly. See how much money you have and buy the goods you want accordingly.

As for canned products, they are containers with chemicals or agricultural produce in them. Either you cultivate these or you go out and buy them. Calculate, brothers, how much can you cultivate so that you can produce canned food? And how much does it cost you to import from abroad with the money you have?

Where are the cars and the television sets? Well, there is a shortage. Decide how many cars you need. Do you want 250,000 cars? Then decide this and the size of the cars you want. Calculate: 250,000 cars cost how much money. You car dealers, tell us how many million dinars they cost.

[Unidentified voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] How many million?

[Voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] That amount is in dinars?

[Voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No, tell me how much in dinars.

[Voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] One-half million dinars? One-half million dinars? What do you mean, 500,000 dinars?

[Voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Let one person speak. Let the one from the Treasury speak and tell us. One-half million? One-half million? Why 250,000?

[Voices] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Let only the Treasury man speak and he will tell us.

[Unidentified man] Four hundred million dinars.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Four hundred million dinars. All right, you want 250,000 cars. Simple: We sit at the people's congresses...[changes thought] No, you, yourselves, you sit; you go there. This is necessary. You go there and say: Who wants a car? Any Libyan citizen who wants a car, raise your hand. The result will be that 250,000 people will want cars; 250,000 cars at the cost of 400 million dinars.

All right, you ask about the amount of our annual oil income. Let us suppose that our income is 1 billion dinars, of which we would pay 400 million for cars. We are left with 600 million. You would then bring in these 250,000 cars and register their owners—form committees, undertake enquiries, set up offices—do anything to register people in need of cars. Both the car and its price would be there. Pay 250,000 from the oil income for a car. Well, if you think that is economical and beneficial to you, then do it. Who is going to prevent you?

[Unidentified speaker] Not 400 million dinars, but 1 billion.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Well, 1 million dinars [as heard]; all right. Right, he is saying that the cost of 250,000 cars is 1 billion dinars. The oil income is 1 billion dinars. All right, you sit and say: We, the Libyan people as a whole, both men and women, have decided the oil income for 1988—and then you would have to stamp your fingerprints; you would have to sign all the decisions.

You would say: We forfeit our claim to the oil income for 1988 and we devote it to only buying cars. We will use it to buy 250,000 cars. Then in 1988 you will not be able to buy anything but cars, just the 250,000 cars.

However, someone may come and say: This is not feasible. Is it reasonable to use all oil income for 1 year to buy cars? What should be done then? Reduce the number of cars. How much is the oil income? One billion dinars. The cars we need cost one billion. In that case, reduce the number of cars. Someone may say: Let us reduce the number by one-half. How much are you left with? You are left with 500 million dinars.

Would you be able to spend from the 500 million dinars during 1988 while using the other 500 million to buy cars? Someone may say: Yes, we can do that. Then, all right, you sign and the decision goes ahead. Someone else may say: No, this is not feasible; we must further reduce the number of cars. The result might be, for example, 100,000 cars. This is it. You just decide this. When 100,000 cars are bought by 100,000 persons, then no one else would come shouting: Where are the cars? Who stole them? Matters would be fixed; your names would be there along with the number. People would be conscious and aware of what they were doing. Thus, no one would have any reason to protest.

I am making a parenthetical point here: Those in charge of carrying out decisions are not attending the people's congresses. There must be a solution to this. For example, a doctor speaks about his salary or surgery. He has the right to open a personal surgical practice and, at the same time, to work in the public hospital. He could abandon his work in the public hospital and work in surgery only, devoting his time exclusively to these places. A doctor facing this problem with his income is not found to be attending the Basic People's Congresses. There must be a solution to this issue. Anyone not attending the Basic People's Congresses forfeits his claims; we do not even recognise his documents. He cannot open a surgerical practice, and we reject his rights. He would be treated as if he were a foreigner working under contract.

Then we find someone in charge of a public company concerned with public matters—building houses for people, roads, or importing clothes and food. People in charge of carrying out the decisions of the people's congresses do not attend the congress meetings. This is a major flaw. There is an important group which is in charge of important matters and of carrying out the decisions of the people's congresses whose members do not attend people's congress meetings. There must be a solution to this at the level of the General People's Congress and the General People's Committee.

You may find somebody who is ignorant, who has not heard about what the people's congresses have said. Then he involves himself in what is happening, saying: Do this. Do not do that. How did this happen [words indistinct]? Or a student may ask: Why have studies been changed at the university? What happened to the curriculum? Why is there a 5-year curriculum here, or a 4-year one there? Well, these matters have been decided by the people's congresses; they have been decided by the people. This student may not have attended the meetings of the congresses; who then would listen to him? He should go to a people's congress to oppose, support, or debate resolutions.

You may find secretaries of people's committees who do not attend or listen to what is said at congresses. One person is responsible for carrying out the decisions of the popular committees; yet you may find that he is ignorant of a debate that took place concerning a certain subject. Or, for example, you may find another citizen who is not in a responsible executive position but is interested in such questions. Yet he does not attend the people's congresses.

After the congresses end and the debates conclude, after the implementation stage has been reached, and after the pens are put away and the ink has dried, he comes along to protest against something. How can he protest? He was not present when we were making the decisions. I no longer accept this. If anyone protests, we should get hold of him and search him for his card to find out whether he was present or not. If he was not present, no alibi is acceptable. He would be equal to an (?animal) in the field in terms of status. He is not a human being who has status, sovereignty, or is a partner in the decision.

By God, there are things which exist in Tunisia but which do not exist in Libya. All the things you want to bring into Libya, you bring them in. (?Be present) at the popular congresses; you must (?attend). Then you can say: We want to go to Turkey, Greece, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco to buy (?carpets), frankincense, clothes, gold rings, gold. You can name all the things which Libyans go abroad to bring back. You decide. Continuing to remit Libyan money abroad and continuing to travel abroad—if this is something that concerns the economy and is useful for the future and if you approve, then no one can object. Go ahead! All of you can go. But if not, then you should say that this is going to ruin us and must not happen. Say: We are not going to go abroad and we are not going to transfer money abroad. This will ruin us. We are going to stay where we are.

On the other hand, you can say that these things will not harm the economy; they can be imported. You can buy frankincense—buy millions worth. And later, someone will come along and say: Brothers you have spent millions on frankincense from Saudi Arabia; the money has been paid to Saudi Arabia. Is it better to do this, or to save these 5 million for investment in a factory or a big agricultural project or weapons or a school or a mosque or laboratories? Discuss this. Is it better for you to burn frankincense and see it go up in smoke—will you be happy that 5 million have gone up in smoke? Or is it not better to invest it in a factory or an agricultural project?

I can let you applaud and be enthusiastic. I can say: Go and buy and bring back frankincense; no one is going to stop you. Bring in chewing gum, silk, and everything else. Go abroad. How nice. (?May God save us)! Anyone who says such things to you wants to deceive you. He is a charlatan who is after your votes. Someone who wants to become president of a republic or a deputy in parliament would do this. People would applaud him and give him their votes. But afterward, the people who voted for him would find out that their future is ruined.

I do not want your votes, nor do I want to rule you. I do not want anything from you. I want to tell you the truth, which will benefit you in the future. Therefore, I do not tell you what makes you happy today but will make you cry tomorrow. I tell you what makes you cry today but will make you happy tomorrow. This is something rare. It is absent in the Arab world and the world of deceit. All European and political parties devise propaganda which plays on the feelings of the masses. They say: We will do this for you, and that, and so on. Later, there are demonstrations against that government which promised to do certain things for them. If you ask why they promised it, they will tell you that it was election propaganda.

Someone may even go so far as to propose a program saying that he will do certain things for the Jews and that he is on the side of the Israelis. He might at one time have been a friend of the Arabs. When the Arabs come along and ask how he can say these things, he will tell them: This is just election propaganda; we are appeasing the Jews and those who sympathize with Zionism in order to get their votes when we want to become a deputy, president, or a minister. This is the kind of humbug that is going on today. Governments in the West promise: We will do these things for the workers and for these people and those people; we will do this for the conservatives and for the capitalists and bourgeois. We will renationalize. Someone else says that we will nationalize. Afterward, they do nothing and the antigovernment demonstrations begin. People start to ask: Where are the things that were promised? But it is a forgone conclusion that the promises were merely election propaganda. It is easy for me to dupe a simple man into casting his vote for me; afterward he will protest that I have not fulfilled my promises.

This is like the land of hypocrisy, where they gave someone courage pills. The story goes that this person took the courage pills and then started to make speeches in Egypt, saying: We will kick the British out; we will build a dam; we will reclaim the land. Afterward, they gave him hypocrisy pills and he told them: We will do this for you. People were pleased and they started applauding. They said that there was no better deputy than he since he was going to kick the British out and reclaim the land and build a dam. Then when the pills wore off, he said: What British, what dam, what Nile, and what mud? He said: Is it possible for me to kick out the British or reclaim the land or build a dam? You and the dam can go to hell. I was after your votes.

Well, this is just a fairy tale, but it describes reality. It tells of those who dupe people in order to gain their votes by saying whatever makes them happy.

Who is preventing you from going to Turkey or Greece? [Words indistinct] increase the number of aircraft and have more aircraft; go to Saudi Arabia on pilgrimage every year. Why every year? You can go [words indistinct]. Al-'Umrah [the out of season minor pilgrimage] can be performed every month. Bring whatever you like; do not search them. Then people will begin to say: Oh God, no one is better than this ruler who has left things open. He is laughing at you because he is ruining your life and will make you go begging tomorrow. Then you will wish that he had been strict and made you save your money to use when needed in the future.

I want you to go and be at the people's congresses. I have mobilized all the revolutionary committees. They will mobilize the masses and involve them in declaring their freedom. At the meetings—which will start now and go on for 1, 2, or 3 months—all Libyans, men and women, will meet and discuss all these issues.

In 1988—you will approve anything that will take place in 1988 to show us that the people's authority has been established. We do not want to hear you talk of someone having been absent or of an issue having been missed.

We do not want to hear anything based on unknowns; everything has to be based on facts—this was organized by so and so, we did it, and we authorized him. Start by noting the things that you lack, what your income is, and then decide. Nothing can be simpler. There is no problem. Petroleum is one source of income. Any of the petroleum people will bring you the accounts. He will tell you how many millions you get per month, per year. Then take a look at your expenditures, your purchases: arms, food, drink, cars, or anything else. Find out how much they total; for example, petroleum is so much. You have petroleum; how much does it total?

It is just like getting your salary: You put 100 dinars in your pocket. What do you want? You want this, that, and the other. This costs 5, that costs 10, that one 5, and that one 30. That is it: 50 dinars. You are left with 50 dinars. What do you want to do with it? That is right: Set it aside; save it [words indistinct]. Let's buy poultry, livestock [words indistinct] sewing machine for the house. Do your accounting. It is up to you to [words indistinct] your family and future.

It amounts to something like: Give me the money and here is the oil. The person takes the oil and gives you the money. How does this take place? Here is the oil and give me the money. Yes, he who has oil has money. Then what do you tell him? You say: Please give me what you have and here is the money [words indistinct]. What does the one with oil end up with? Zero. This is exactly what happens. What would the other one have? He has taken the oil and the money which he has given you. That is it; this is exactly the situation when you import. You give them oil and they give you money. And then you give them the money back and they give you items that are derived from oil. When you ask where is the [words indistinct] this is manufactured from your oil [words indistinct].

This does not mean that Libya is experiencing shortages or that it is in a state of poverty. On the contrary, this is a rich country; it is the cheapest country in the world. Libyans do not have great needs and there are no problems recurring every year. It does not mean that we have an economic problem like other countries. On the contrary, you have a rich country and you are rich. However, we are not talking about money; you have stacks of money and oil is plentiful and will last dozens of years. There are also resources other than oil; there is water.

This is what we are talking about: We are talking about people's democracy. We are talking about people's authority. Whenever someone takes stock of his funds, people think that there is a shortage of money and oil. Oil is as abundant as water, and there is money. There is absolutely no economic crisis in Libya. Just look at the countries with economic crises. People eat out of garbage cans. A rich person puts his garbage can outside his house and later finds a family eating out of it. They have a crisis. There are those who live in pipes; a family may live in a pipe which has not been buried in the ground. There are marriages and births in these pipes—sewage and road maintenance pipes in which we find cats and rats here. In other countries you find human beings in them. They have a crisis. Even in the United States, there are 3 million citizens living on the pavement. They sleep on the pavement; they have no homes. They are on the pavement from night until morning. Three million—that is a town or two. Those people have a crisis. There were people in France who died of the cold. They had no money to pay the gas company for gas; the company cut off their supply and they died. Forty families were found frozen in their homes. This is a crisis. They had no money to pay for the gas, so the company cut off their supply.

You can see for yourselves that people are dying in the streets of other countries; they are dying from hunger. They are dying in the streets and they are swept to the graveyard or to the crematorium. There are people who cannot find anything to eat, who are not choosy about what they eat or what clothes they wear. Our present problem is what shall we wear—shall we wear silk or nylon? This is our crisis, as you can see. It is a matter of desire. That man is sitting naked in the cold and says: I will wear canvas if I can find some. He says: Anything I find I will eat or I will starve to death. While we say: Shall we eat wheat or shall we eat flour? This is our problem; a choice between one thing or another, while for them it is a choice between life and death.

I am not talking about money, petroleum, or anything else; you have those things, thanks be to Allah. I am talking about the people's authority. It could have been a grave crisis had someone assumed power for himself. And as there is no crisis, we gain the people's authority; we gain democracy. You do not need me or any of my colleagues. What do you want us for? You haven't a single crisis, so we want you to do without us and know that you are free.

This does not mean accepting someone else to replace me. No. In that case we will fight him. If someone has to rule, then we are more entitled to do so. Either the people rule or we do; and as long as we have decided not to rule, then only the people can rule. This is the reason why we sometimes eliminate somebody—because he intends to rule the people. Therefore, we confront him and bodily eliminate him, for either the people or the group which carried out the revolution should rule. As long as those who carried out the revolution and who have the right to rule do not want to do so, there is no place for any tramp who comes late and asks: Where is my share? What has this tramp got to do with it? When the Italians filled Tripoli, where were you? When the British filled the country, where were you? When the Americans had five bases, where were you? And when treason, reaction, and decay were rampant and the oil was flowing to the United States, where were you? Now you come and find it cool and nice and you want to rule. Such people must be beheaded. This is what makes us strong enough to show it on television. Others execute someone, run him over with a car, or poison him. We do not do that. When we execute someone, we do it on television. We told the revolutionary committees to call out the masses to conferences in the open air and to put the gallows in a field without police or anything else. Why? Because those individuals had intended to rule the people; but that is impossible. This people either rules itself or we who carried out the revolution should rule.

And because we have decided not to rule, we will not allow anyone else to rule the people. We will intervene. Anyone who contemplates ruling the people we will execute in a field before the entire world without fear. And if we are asked why we eliminated him, we will answer: Because he was a power-grabber intending to rule the people. Where was he during the 10 years when we were underground and our lives were threatened and we were struggling to ward off death? Where were you? Now we have expelled the foreign bases from Libya, the U.S. and the British ones; we have expelled the Italians and the monarchy forces; and we have recovered the petroleum and built housing, roads, and agricultural and industrial projects. And now you come to rule all that? God forbid.

What kind of fool would let you rule? Of course we will execute you. And anyone in the future who conspires against the people's authority, we will execute in a field without mercy or compassion. Let everyone hear this and let those present tell those who are absent. We make this statement because we exposed ourselves to danger and to death. We, who expelled colonialism and who liberated the country, refuse to rule; but let the people rule. Now, when someone else comes along and says that he wants to rule the Libyan people, is that possible? This is our stand and you are responsible to yourselves [words indistinct].

The agricultural land which I see you are not concerned about is your future. The petroleum that you have should build agriculture and a future for your children. However, you can decide of your own free will what to do. If, for example, you have decided to disregard and neglect the arable land, then you are free to say that we Libyans, male and female, have freely decided to diregard and neglect the agricultural land and let be what may. You sign that decision. So, when tomorrow we find someone cutting down palm trees or olive trees in order to build a shop or a playground to be rented to a foreign company, no one should object. The people decided to forego agricultural land and to get rid of agriculture altogether. People are trying to live without agriculture; they are free. All very nice, thank God. This is freedom!

Once you decide that he who cuts down an olive tree should have his hand amputated, that is it. The day after you see on television someone having his hand amputated, you will not say: How barbaric and savage! No, because this would be sacred social legislation. Whatever the people creates is sacred. The people say that he who cuts down an olive or palm tree will have his hand cut off. You! What is this palm tree you are cutting down? He replies: This is my palm tree on my own land. Your palm tree and land are part of the Libyan land and part of our wealth, and we are not as inattentive as some people to really let you cut your trees down on the pretext that they belong to you. It is not your plantation; the land belongs to all. Suppose you only have 1 palm tree in front of your home, or 10 palm trees, which is enough to supply your family, and you cut them down and replace them with a house and then you seek dates or (?sweets) from abroad, while we (?thought) you would be able to be self-sufficient with those 10 palm trees. This is a sacred tree, rare in this world. This palm tree is better than you, you ignorant enemy of the homeland and the future. This palm tree is as good as 100 trees and will provide for three generations. It would be better to sacrifice you as an individual. Kill him. Kill him (?instead) of the palm tree.

We kill him instead, and we announce it on the air that today a person was killed in Sug al-Jum'a because he cut down a palm tree, a sacred palm tree. If people find someone who has killed a cow, they can execute him because cows are sacred. Not because the cow is God, but because the cow provides meat and milk and can give life. Thus, it becomes sacred. The palm tree is sacred; the olive tree is sacred; the female camel is sacred. Yes, the camel which you bring fodder to, which lives on Saharan grass, which weighs more and has more meat than any other animal, which has milk, which can be used for transport and for plowing, is sacred.

How can you kill a camel? All these things are decided by you. You decide these things. Decide and sign them: Things pertaining to the person who kills camels and sheep, cuts down palm trees, cuts down olive trees to plant peppers instead or tomatoes or peanuts because these have quicker monetary returns. That's it, then. We will not work for the future; we decided that we do not want a future. We want peanuts. Then you can plant peanuts.

No, we have decided to build our future, to plant palm trees and olive trees, and to cultivate the land. He who wants to harm this will have his hand cut off.

Everything, then, will be public. When we cut off someone's hand or kill him, he will have known when he cut down the palm tree that he would be executed under it, even if it was his.

Take a look. See the free people, see the impact of oil, see the colonialist culture, see the legacy of the exploitive private sector, the old era, the middlemen, the contractors and the legacy of their customs and traditions. Go and see. The building in which everything is imported from abroad is erected on palm trees. Should the palm trees from which we can live be carelessly cut down and a palace be built on them and everything in it be imported from abroad? Is this building our future and our children's future?

This is the enemy. What more can colonialism do than this? More than a people which cuts down palm trees, olive trees, and spoils agricultural lands to buy things imported from colonialist countries. As I have said: Take oil, give me money. Once you are given money, you ask for glass, ceramic, tiles, and marble and give that money. Eat those tiles and marble now. Give me a saw to cut down a palm tree; sell it to me. They are happy now making saws. Anything that will cut agriculture and kill it will be quickly brought to you. You can try them. I found electric saws in the Jabal al-Akhdhar. I found a green mountain, which I saw was bare between Soussa and Ras al-Hilal. I asked about the bare spot on the green mountain. They said: It is due to people who have electric saws to cut trees and make coal. Instead of saying: No, the green mountain is ours; we do not want it to become bare [words indistinct]. Who decided this? In which congress? Where is the people's committee? Where are the forest guards who can arrest these people and have them executed in conformity with the laws that have been passed. Fine, you can stay like that. You will be blamed for it. Is it a repressive government which said to do this? Is it colonialism which prevented us from being in charge of our own affairs? Blame yourselves. The revolutionary program is one thing, and the declaration of freedom is another. If we govern in a dictatorial way, then we would implement the revolutionary program that we are continuously defending. When we declare freedom, you have before you the revolutionary program, which you have (?to implement) properly. That is all I can say. You can implement the revolutionary program, or you cannot implement it.

If you implement the revolutionary program, some might say: All right, dictatorially we have to implement the revolutionary program. All revolutions have passed through dictatorial stages and have executed, imprisoned, and exiled people in order to implement their revolutionary programs. This situation could arise if our convictions were dictatorial.

But we are essentially democratic. I mean that we have believed in freedom and in the authority of the people from the very beginning. This is the first point. Second, the time for dictatorship has passed. If I said from the very first day, upon declaring the revolution, that there will be a military dictatorship until the revolutionary program was implemented, that would have been reasonable. But to come now and declare myself a dictator—this cannot be. You have to look for another dictator. If you wish to implement a dictatorial regime, then look for a dictator. I will not be a dictator.

I have people now who do not care about things. I can impose them on you. If you come to me and say: We want a dictator. O Mu'ammar, please help us. Nominate some people to rule us with fire to implement the revolutionary program. We know some and could bring them.

There are things I could administer by myself, but I am reluctant and I cannot do so. [Words indistinct] they call me Father Mu'ammar. All these things prevent me from becoming a dictator. Someone has taken bribery [words indistinct]. They say here: Father Mu'ammar has come. Can I take his tractor after that? What I mean is that I am no longer fit to be a dictator. [applause] Either you ask me to find you a dictator or you implement your program by yourselves, saying: He has left us with the revolutionary program and told us to implement or not to implement it as we wish. This is true. I want the revolutionary program to be implemented democratically through the people and not through me.

The program provides for placing all authority, wealth, and arms in the hands of the people for barter, for elementary home education, for freedom of education, for autonomous rule, for revolutionary professionals, for teacher-employee relations, for the new educational structure, for the abolition of drivers and secretaries, for the abolition of servants, for the reorganization of the coastal strip, for the redistribution of farms—the praise of which we sang for so many years, and for cultivation of the coastal line. The program also provides for the Jamahiri parks, work by rotation, and organized collective work. You should review what I said at the Al-Zawiyah street conference. The program also provides for collective ownership and family self-sufficiency and even state self-sufficiency. It also provides for shutting off the oil and replacing it by other things. Now you rely on oil alone. But if you shut it off, you can depend on other things. The oil could be a reserve.

The program also contains what I have said about the dialogue on exploitation, hiring, and barter. You must shut the door of exploitation, since you have the opportunity to become rich, in order to become an industrial and strong power. Quickly shut the door of excessive consumption. The program also provides for the abolition of trifling vocations. I cannot understand how a strong man can go around selling roses, unless he has a rose nursery and this is his work. But for someone to go selling roses to another who then goes and stands at the Martyrs' Square to sell roses—this should be banned. Women can work in a textile factory, in agriculture, in the fields of health and education, but not go selling as venders in the street. This is something we cannot accept. A people which have such things cannot forge its way to the future in the present age, the age of the atom and the arming of space and the laser. The woman who goes selling in the street can, for instance, organize the municipality garden. She can work in a coffeeshop. You say no, she is a decent woman; but how can she be when she is sitting on the pavement? We no longer can say that she is behaving decently. If a woman goes to work as a ticket collector on a bus, they say: How can a woman do such a work? Is it better to sit on the pavement?

The revolutionary program provides for offer to be according to need and not according to demand. This is because demands have no aid. It would be wrong for offer to be according to demand, for then you would ask for impossible things. You may ask for manna. There is in Iraq a substance which they call manna. The demand has no limits. Offer must be according to need. You need clothes, you bring clothes. You need food, you bring food. You need transport, you bring transport. But demand could be limitless.

I am saying this because the Libyans still have an opportunity to save huge wealth which they can use to build their future, and thus benefit themselves and the Arab nation. But you can easily and quickly squander what you have and thus benefit neither yourselves nor your nation. You become just one more zero among zeroes.

This revolutionary program contains issues about which we have spoken, such as closing the door of consumption, trifling jobs, offer according to need, and the creation of consumer societies, which are an exploitive form of trade. Why should we cover up things? If the public markets fail, let them fail and let them go to hell.

We start with consumer associations. We ask people: What sector are you working in? They answer: We work in the insurance company. Well then: Set up a consumer society of the insurance company. All those working in the insurance company have a shop specifically for them where they buy things, the property of their company. There is nothing difficult in this.And so on and so forth. You ask people: Where do you work? They answer: We work in the Bukammash complex. This is it: Form a market, a consumer society for the workers of the Bukammash chemical complex. You would not then need another shop, nor would you need a failing public market. Start in this manner. With regard to the customs men: They can form a consumer society for the customs men or for forestry protection men, for the workers in municipal security, if they exist. I am mentioning these on purpose because these organs are important but do not exist. How is it that there is no municipal guard, a health guard that checks on the vegetables sold in the streets, the fruit market laid in the public street and blocking this street?

How can a public street be closed? If somebody wants to go to Bennina, Barsis, or to Al-Aziziyah one finds the rapid expressway, that cost 20 million, containing watermelons, and oranges—right in the public road. Cars are supposed to stay away, and tents are erected in the road and their owners are socializing. Things must be organized. There should be guardsmen. Rotten watermelons must not be offered for sale. A coffeeshop must be closed down if need be. Where is the forestry guard service? Where is the guard to arrest the one who fells a tree, and to check on the one who has fenced land and abandoned it? I have written in the Green Book that unexploited land must be confiscated. Land that is unexploited must be confiscated from its owner forthwith. One cannot say: This is my farm, the property of my father. No, either you live off of it or I live off of it. There may even be fighting over such land.

Land is the property of all. It belongs to anyone exploiting it to fulfill his needs, with his own effort, without exploiting others. Any Libyan passing by a farm with unexploited land, fertile land, may look for its owner and say to him: Look, I give you a week. Either I find this to be a farm from which you and your family draw a living or I and my family will come bringing sticks, axes, and knives. We will then fight for it and take it by force because the land belongs to all Libyans. Perhaps my great grandfather is buried in this land where you are now.

You have the right to do this. If you pass by a farm abandoned by its owner, you ask: Where is the owner of the farm? Why are the palm trees abandoned? They would say: Their owner has money, or something else. That is it. The day after, you and your family come and occupy the farm. Let there be problems of this kind. This is an invitation for all of you to go into rebellion. All those who have no farms, the disinherited, those who have knives and sticks, ought to march on the land abandoned by its owners because they are rich or have two other farms, or get salaries, or other incomes. Let them take over the land. Thus, everyone will be obliged to look after his own land. [applause]

The revolutionary program, which is based on the fact that power, resources, and arms are in the hands of the people, has been debated. It has been debated in the sixth speech [as heard] and the speech of the 11th anniversary of the 1st of September Revolution. You can review it. We can review it; the 11th anniversary of the revolution. The program contains a pledge of what the Libyan people should do toward the Palestinian resistance, Syria, the Arab nation, the poor Arab peoples. So long as you have money to spare, and you go to Turkey, Greece, and Saudi Arabia to spend it... [Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] Instead of making Saudi Arabia benefit from this money, that rich state which is doing favors for the United States itself. [sentence as heard] Saudi Arabia is rich, thanks be to God, and it gives charity to the United States. Alms are for the poor and the needy, those who administer the charity funds, those whose hearts have been reconciled to the truth, those in bondage, and for wayfarers. [Koranic verse] Does this apply to the United States? Perhaps it does belong to the poor, those in bondage, those who administer the charity funds, those whose hearts have been reconciled to the truth. Perhaps the United States will enter Islam and come among those whose hearts have been reconciled to the truth. True, the relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia is quite old and secret, and perhaps the Americans will enter Islam. For this reason Saudi Arabia is giving them billions.

When you go with your money to buy incense, saying that it comes from Mecca, you should realize that it does not really come from Mecca. It is bought from India, from Indonesia, from Madagascar. Go to India and to Indonesia and buy incense. Why should you get it from Saudi Arabia? They claim that the incense originates from Mecca. No, there is no incense in Mecca; there are Americans there. Such incense brought from Saudi Arabia is perfidious and dirty. If you bring something from Saudi Arabia it means that such a thing is stained, stained by the Americans. There should not be Americans in the sacred land; neither their aircraft, nor their ships, nor their bases, nor their experts, nor their militarymen, nothing, nor their intelligence.

But the United States is fully present in Saudi Arabia. The things you bring from Saudi Arabia are germ-ridden. The frankincense brought from holy Mecca is in fact brought from under the feet of the Americans. Saudi Arabia has itself bought it from another country. What has brought me to this subject? If you are to spend money on buying these things, you had better give it to the Palestinian resistance, to the Lebanese nationalist movement; give it to Syria, to Yemen which is poor, to Mauritania, to Tunisia.

Do you really have money to spare to buy superfluous things? Well, you might as well give it to your brethren. You should [words indistinct] the paragraph included in the speech of the 11th anniversary of the revolution. This is among the revolutionary program which you will remember and discuss during the debates of the people's congresses and then perhaps carry out. It is not enough to give $100,000; no, you should offer 1 billion. You ought to say: One quarter of Libya's yearly income is to be given to the Palestinian resistance. This is if you want to fight instead of shouting: Palestine, Palestine. Give them a quarter of your income and see what happens, or give it to Syria, or to Tunisia.

It is a neighboring country which is (?an extension to yours). It has rid itself of the defunct era. Now they have a new era. You give them a quarter of the Libyan income. It is a surplus; you do not need it. Do a good turn to your Arab nation, for maybe one day it will repay you, if you become poor or are fighting or in need of something. Why this tight-fistedness and meanness? Instead of offering to the Palestinian resistance 100,000 or 4,000, you should say: Here are 100 million or 1 billion. Change it and give Syria 1 billion all at once instead of every month.

This is part of the revolutionary program. We were saying that the Jamahiriyah is a state for the Arabs. What does it mean to say the state for the Arabs? It means that Arabs would work and live in it without having to enter it with passports. (?Anyone who objected to them) should do their (?job himself). You were not able to do (?the job), and at the same time (?you are complaining.) If I bring in a doctor from the Arab countries and tell him to be a revolutionary doctor, you would see how a revolutionary doctor should be. If not this, then let us bring in an agricultural guide from the Arab countries and tell him that he is the revolutionary guide; you would see how he would work. By God, he would start by moving about on foot or on bicycle or on a donkey or a horse. He would go everywhere and teach the peasants and the people. As for the doctor, he would see the people in the street and start telling some: You should go to a hospital; and you, go and have an X-ray; you go and have rest of some sort; you are anemic or you have bilharzia. How long have we been saying that the revolutionary vocationalist should be part of the revolutionary program? Where is this revolutionary vocationalist?

That is it. If you cannot manage it, let the Arabs come and manage it. Bring in Egyptians to run agriculture. Bring 1 million Egyptians. Bring 1 million Syrians and 1 million Lebanese. Bring them and let them live in Libya. You would see how they would run agriculture; you would see the palm trees and olive trees which you are chopping down to turn into charcoal.

I am still insistent on bartering as one of the basic things. This program ends by abolishing money. But no one is going to impose it on you. If you open a savings bank, what happens? The underdeveloped and colonized people who have been made to mistrust everything by colonialism—may God destroy it—made us have no confidence in anything or in a bank.

Actually, when one of you has 100 dinars he does not deposit that sum in a bank. He says: I do not know who controls this bank; tomorrow someone may come and seize it. The thing is that this is what we have become accustomed to. You should turn the savings bank into one that is controlled by Libyans. Extra keys should be cut and all the people who have money deposited should each have one copy. This is in order to be certain that (?he has access). You have a bank which is called a savings bank. You know where it is and where its branches are and if we want to control it we ourselves appoint people to run it, people in whom we have confidence. It is we who guard it [words indistinct]. Libyans who possess 1 billion dinars kept in their homes should deposit that money in this bank.

You should have your own bank, a bank that you can guard yourselves, whose keys you will have, and in which you have confidence. You, yourselves, can appoint the people who run it. Then the bank will not belong to the government. Let us suppose that there is a government—let us suppose there is an imaginery government. We do not want this government to have its hand in the savings bank. Where does the Libyan put his money? He would put it in this bank. But he is not sure if it is a government bank. Where is our own bank? Here it is. Who runs it? Someone. No, my neighbor's son is nice and I want him to be an employee in the bank. Why? Suppose he says that if he deposits 1,000 dinars he wants to be sure that the money is looked after by his cousin or his neighbor's son.

That is the point. Each branch in each area where there is a savings bank should have officials and guards who are appointed by the people themselves, then they can deposit their money in it. This is quite right. Who has confidence in a bank that is situated along the seashore? The Americans or the (?Jews) might come and seize it. We can never trust it. You should not put your money in a bank that belongs to (?the government).

That is right. Have a bank that belongs to you. As for state banks, we must have nothing to do with them. Who knows who might come and seize them tomorrow and take the money in them?

When I talk about self-administration, I mean to say that everyone should clean his own house, office, or yard. And when I say that an official or doctor should clean his own office instead of someone else, this is what I mean. When I say that chauffeurs should be abolished in this country, that everyone should drive his own car, and when I say that there should be no secretaries—man or woman—and when I refer to freedom of education, I mean anyone who has a workshop should have a group of pupils so that he can teach them there. When I say officials should also teach one lesson at a kindergarten, primary, or secondary school; and when we say that as part of the revolutionary program 400,000 women should take the place of 400,000 men, and when we say that unimportant crafts should be closed down, like those who work on the radio or who sell roses, what do we mean by all these things? We mean we should save a huge amount of manpower.

What we mean by that is that we should save an enormous amount of human energy, which is very badly needed in a country with a small population and a large area and with serious tasks and imposed challenges. Someone might ask on what grounds you are ruining his shop. He is only selling (?tobacco), so let him alone. Another example is someone who runs a coffee shop—when we say a coffee shop, it means you come in, drink, pay, and leave. Newspapers should be left in the street. If it was stolen once, twice, three times, or four times, it will not be after 10 years, it will be lying in the street. [sentence as heard]

When we say you should drive your car yourself, it means there should be no driver who makes his living in this way. The janitor who cleans the office we work in also receives wages and makes his living that way. This is a superficial view of someone illiterate who did not understand what I have said. When each of us drives his car himself, cleans his own office, cleans his street himself, and when there are no more people sitting in cafes, in shops or at the road side selling something, male or female, it will mean we have saved manpower as if it had sprung from the ground; and when it actually springs from the ground, you yourselves will ask where all those people have been. They were absorbed by trivial and unproductive jobs. And of course, production will increase, the land will become green, the factories will start to run at full capacity. Every factory is now running at one-quarter of its capacity. Why? Where are the other three-quarters? There are no people, is the answer. No, the people are there, but where? They are sitting in the radio station, in the cafes, or selling flowers; they are drivers, secretaries and empty [words indistinct] and those sitting idle cross-legged. Gather all those people sitting with their legs crossed.

Brothers, we have not yet reached the stage arrived at by Europe, so that you can cross your legs. If you sit with your legs crossed now, you will die. It is not the time for it yet. At present you must be occupied with mobilization and with progress or else we will be finished.

There is a terrible race between the nations. Yesterday man was on Earth, today he is on the moon [words indistinct] and tomorrow will go to Mercury. [Words indistinct] look at the race between them. They built a propelled aircraft that crossed the ocean in 20 hours; then a jet aircraft in 7 hours; then they manufactured supersonic aircraft to cross it in 2 hours. All this separates us in terms of progress. The consequence is that you have to run fast, breathing heavily with open mouth, running behind. They have invented the telephone while you branded that as magic. They manufactured the radio, the television, and the recorder, and so on. You are befuddled this way, despite the fact that these products are made and managed by people like you, but not sitting idle or doing trivial things.

People of the Third World are basking in the sun. Human potential—man created by God to be his successor on earth—is sitting sunbathing. What sort of life is this? How could we demand a better life? [passage indistinct]

Someone might claim that these are services. Very well, let them be services, but it would be far better if we took he who sits by the roadside selling trivial things and put him elsewhere to be a barber. Then we really can say that what he is doing is a needed service.

I have before me a lot of data about the culture of colonialism. The Turks, the Italians, the English—all of them taught us the same thing and sought to keep us unimportant people, like the red Indians whom they scattered and forced to live on reservations. They intended the same for Germany, because they are a giant people and they wanted to scatter them like the red Indians. The red Indians, the Arabs, the Germans, and the Japanese are mighty powers they intend to rid themselves of. International imperialism seeks to eliminate the vital power of the world by teaching us these trivial things. Here you are, they say, test this; it is sweet and nice and you will get addicted to it so that we can supply you with more. [passage indistinct]

They are teaching us to drink wine in Libya. By the way, there is a law stipulating that anyone who drinks cannot assume responsibility. One of the factors that spoiled things for us was the fact that many of those who drink were in positions of responsibility—they drink at night and (?mess) up during the day. In all the countries of the world, he who drinks cannot assume responsibility. You have seen that in the United States there was a judge who admitted that in his youth he had used hashish once; they said that was enough, that he cannot be appointed as a judge. Rightly, judges must not drink, and a person of responsibility must not drink, smoke hashish, or play cards. Someone who in the morning has to think about an agricultural, industrial, administrative, edcuational, or health project cannot drink or play cards at night. It is not forbidden, no. It is a matter of his health if he wants to drink or play cards. We are not saying it is prohibited; that is unfair, [words indistinct] but he will not assume responsibility. The person will assume responsibility who sleeps at night and wakes up fresh and rested in the morning, spending the night examining the files and thinking of his project. It is precarious for someone deciding the fate of people in the morning to have spent the night playing cards or drinking [words indistinct].

That is why you find a great deal of imbalance resulting from these cases. Even in the rotten United States, a judge who had hashish once in his life was denied his appointment. Indeed, how can a judge be a drinker of alcohol? They asked him: Have you ever drunk alcohol? He said yes, once. They said that is enough; you drank it once and you would return to it again; you might pass your judgments while drunk. This matter is treated within a law which you passed long ago and it must be implemented.

The people's security, the armed people, and the producing and combatant cities are all included in the revolutionary program. You will debate all of these and decide on [words indistinct]. I have told you that when we say close the door of consumption, it is in order to save money that will be useful for you in managing future consumption. And when I tell you to close the door of trivial jobs, it is to create a giant human force with which you can produce something useful.

Brothers, we are a people living in a continent of 2 million square km with so few people and with all of these challenges from the north, south, and everywhere. How could our circumstances allow us to sit with our legs crossed, or allow men and women to sit in these trivial jobs?

There are three strategic things and we are going to discuss two of them. One is the great man-made river, a strategic factor which is paralleled by the fortifications on the coast. You pay as much money for the coastal fortifications as for the great man-made river. A strategic factor after the great man-made river is the fortifications on the coast; and a strategic factor after the fortifications on the coast is the setting up of the systems of dams and cisterns from home to the river, all along the area where rain falls, from the western mountain to the green mountain, passing by the central region. This is an act of civilization, an act of progress. Every single drop of water from heaven must be exploited. It should neither go to the sea nor sink into the ground. We will collect it in a utensil and then make use of it either as drinking water or for irrigation. You will then see the huge quantities of water which will be available to you. It will be as if you possessed the Nile River, if you make this historic strategic network. The Romans made something similar in past eras when they colonized North Africa.

This would cost money. Look at the money that goes to Turkey, Greece, Italy, Saudi Arabia, and for trivial things, and see for yourself what is more important. Which is more important: Is it these trivial things you bring from abroad or a network of dams that build the future, the fortifications on the coast and the great man-made river? Compare all these things. I am not telling you anything. You just compare them. When you leave here, convene the people's congresses right away; and any Libyan who does not attend should be put on the record so that he will not have the right to speak later. Even if we reduce something, he will not be able to come and say: Why have you reduced this or that? We will tell him: You did not attend so we will not discuss it with you. We have decided and that is it.

When I speak about education at home or freedom of education, this would save us thousands of people. It saves us millions—let those in the know calculate it for you at your congresses. If all primary education is done at home, when this is done at home, then seriousness will come into the family. Now perhaps a quarter of the Libyan families live in ivory towers. At home the only thing they do is watch video cassettes and other trivialities. We must involve them in this: They must teach their children.

Besides, when you teach your children their primary education at home this does not mean working with a child from morning to nightfall. This is not necessary. It would be enough to give him one or two sessions a week. What matters is that after a number of years he will absorb his primary education. Why should family life be trivial and most urban Libyan families have a trivial life? As soon as they have children, that is it: take him to the nursery, take him to the primary school. No, teach him yourself. Such families have [words indistinct] at home, no sewing machine; they do not work; they do not train; they do not sweat. They are useless. Why should we teach their children?

There may be families where all their members work, becoming tired, earning their bread, and taking part in making progress. In this case, we will teach the children of such families. Yes, we will build a school for them. As far as you are concerned, just put the factories into full production. A factory with 4 workers may function with just 1 worker, and a factory with 400 hundred may work with just 100. Then take away 300 workers and (?put) them in other factories.

These are two new projects: the network of dams and cisterns. In winter, homes must collect the water which will be drunk in summer, until dams everywhere [words indistinct]. And when all the unemployed women replace men, then we save almost half a million men. All factories, offices, hospitals, and schools must be administered by women in a struggling country like this, a country that ought to be an example, a model, the first Jamahiriyah, the state of the masses, a country with responsibilities.

Why does the United States drop its bombs on us? Because we are unifying the Arab nation, liberating Palestine, and realizing the dignity of this humiliated nation. Then how can we declare the fight and stand idly by? This gives value to our lives; otherwise, what value would they have? Reports say 2,000 Libyans have died in road accidents. Who mournes them? If it was said 2,000 died in a battle, 2,000 died for the liberation of Palestine, 2,000 died in the Gulf of Sidra, then all the world would treasure their memories—huge numbers of victims, scores of martyrs. They say that every 12 months, 2,000 Libyans die in road accidents; 19,000 have broken limbs. Statistics of road accidents are published on television and in the newspapers every year, every month.

Reports say: Today 10 died in a road accident while on their way to a funeral; or today 15 died in a road accident when 2 cars were in a head-on collision while on their way to a circumcision ceremony. If it was said that such people had died in a fedayeen operation in Tel Aviv, 15 of them, then the whole world would be shaken. But, who except their kinfolk, is going to regret those who die in road accidents? No one. Let just 1,000 die in a historic, heroic action. If 2,000 people die thus, no one except their kinfolk will know about them. If we are meant to die, we will die; then our lives would have meaning.

You are free; you can stay in bed or sell frankincense and roses; or go to Saudi Arabia under the pretext of pilgrimage and minor pilgrimage. But religion is no longer religion, minor pilgrimage is no longer a minor pilgrimage, and pilgrimage is no longer pilgrimage. You may go and sleep in the streets of Turkey, Syria, and Greece. You can also go to Tunisia which has, thanks be to God, opened up its doors under the new regime. You can decide this, and I would be happy because a free people has decided so. You may understand what I mean and decide, on the contrary, to stay at home and save money for useful purposes. After deciding to carry out the revolutionary program, you would feel that for the first time you have put your feet on the correct path and your life would have meaning. Then you would deserve to defend it and die for its sake; you would have wanted something that has value in the world. The model state would begin in the world, the Jamahiriyah, the state of the masses. There would be revolutions in the Arab homeland to imitate you. A serious youth would emerge saying: We want the Libyan model to be realized in our country.

In the future the easygoing lifestyle will end. But presently you are not a model at all. When you go to Saudi Arabia they see what the Libyans are buying and they might say: So these are the Libyans. They are silly and so is their revolution. Is this the Jamahiriyah? People sleeping in the streets, carrying shopping bags? Is this how free citizens are? No, they might say; we do not want to be like the Libyans. This is what is happening now. A doctor comes from another country. He might say: Where is the revolutionary doctor—this one? I am better than him. I [words indistinct] my office in Germany better than you; I apply this system of yours and you are not applying it. Where is this revolutionary farming adviser? If they find you riding a horse, a bike, a donkey or driving a car on your way to teach peasants with the farm, the valley and the field as your school, they would say: How splendid; this is the country that sows seeds, builds, and has a valuable life.

After producing, consume and buy what you want. I tell you: If you want to buy silk, no one is saying that silk is prohibited and that you cannot wear it. No, wear it. But produce wool to sell and buy silk. Produce camel wool and sell it to buy silk. Produce goat hair, produce anything, sell it and buy something else. You want bananas, well, produce olives; sell olives and buy bananas. Who is going to prevent you? If you want a Mercedes car, go and buy one. Just produce something here. Produce chicken, honey, barley, sheep, camels; sell them and buy a Mercedes. No one would prevent you from doing so.

But if you say: Bring me bananas, bring me a Mercedes, bring me silk while I sit idly by. No, this is not feasible. There is no rain of gold or silver from heavens. Produce and you can buy anything from abroad. It is a misunderstanding to believe that it is prohibited to buy things. No, the question is not that of not importing this drink, clothes, tins, or equipment. No, it is not importing them that is the question, but that there is no production in return. If you produce you cannot say: Buy me this or that from oil money. No, we cannot sell oil and buy these things. These are desires and superfluous things. Produce something other than oil; sell it and buy these things.

Say: My children and I will wear only silk. By God, there will be no one to prevent you from doing so. But produce wool and say: I am selling this wool to buy silk. Who is going to prevent you from doing so? Sell wool for 1,000 dinars and buy silk for 1,000 dinars. Sell wool for 500 dinars and buy 500 dinars of silk. Who is going to prevent you? If you say: My children and I want to eat food from abroad only; we want European tinned food which contains nuclear radiation. That is it, you are free. You may die from nuclear radiation; but produce. Bring milk, butter, buttermilk, and olives and sell them and then import tinned food with the money. If you say, I want butter from Denmark, then you must produce Libyan butter and sell it to buy butter from Denmark. Who is going to prevent you? But you cannot say: No, I do not produce butter here but you should bring me butter from Denmark [words indistinct] How can one bring it for you? Denmark does not give things for free. Have you ever heard that Denmark has said: For the sake of God and on the occasion of the 'Ashura religious day I am sending butter to these Muslims. No, never. They do not have any 'Ashura in Denmark, sir. Regrettably, they do not have any 'Ashura. They do not know it at all. They know just money. Give them money and they give you cheese. Where do you get the money? Produce something, sell it, get money, and go to Denmark.

I am insisting on the consumer voucher that you have done away with. I am insisting on it at this stage and this is necessary. With the bulletin you only buy whatever you need. It happens that a group hoards market products in their homes and the rest are left without anything. This is what is happening now. We import enough products and then they disappear. I say to them: Why is there a shortage of shoes sometimes? What is the quantity that we consume? They say: We consume 3 million shoes a year. I ask them: How many did you import? They say: We have imported 3.25 million shoes. Then before half the year or two-thirds of the year is over, all the shoes are sold out because some people have bought more than they need.

Instead of buying 5 pairs of shoes, somebody buys 20. So it is clear. Suppose that you enter a cinema hall that has tickets for 1,000 viewers because it has 1,000 seats. They play the film. If you buy 1,000 tickets then you will be the only one sitting in the theater. Others come and are told: No tickets are left. This is ridiculous. One buys only one ticket. The state of the market is exactly like this. You must buy only what you need.

You are applying it, but when we talk to you about something like this you laugh. You laugh at somebody buying all the tickets and sitting on his own because he has money and there is no ban on buying any number of tickets. The man in question comes and says: How many tickets do you have? One thousand, he is told. And how much is a ticket? One dinar, he is told. Then he says: Here are 1,000 dinars; give me the tickets. The cinema officer does not care. He has 1,000 dinars, and he does not care if others come or not. The man says: I am staying on my own today in the cinema hall, watching the film on my own. Others come, 999 persons come; they stand up in a queue. The cinema officer says to them: There are no tickets. Where are they, they ask? And they are told: Somebody has bought them, and nothing prevents me from selling tickets. He gave me a price and I have sold all the tickets to him. The result is that you are prevented from seeing this film, and you are staying out. This is exactly the case when there is no organization. Enter the market. One thousand refrigerators are imported and you buy all of them. You can even smash them or throw them into the sea, so long as there is no one telling you that you must buy just one refrigerator, a voucher saying that you can buy only one.

Likewise, if tea, sugar, flour, or rice are imported, some think of buying the lot for themselves. They can do so, and if everyone buys for three instead of buying for one, then calculate: For every 1,000 buyers there will be 3,000 who are deprived of buying in just one municipal district. We would find 3,000 people shouting: There is a shortage! In fact there is no shortage because 1,000 persons have bought the shares of 3,000. As long as we permit someone to buy the shares of 3 persons, this is the same as 1,000 persons buying the shares of 3,000. In a whole city you will find more than 1 or 2 persons saying: Look, 3,000 people are shouting about shortages. No, products had been imported but 1,000 persons have bought the shares of the 3,000 in question, because nothing prevents the 1,000 from buying the shares of 3,000.

I am still insisting on this [consumer vouchers to fight hoarding], but you are free to decide. If there is a shortage of something it means that it is with the other person, your friend. Products have indeed been imported. Most products are available, but they disappeared here, inside, because of the absence of the organization I have told you about. I believe that you have understood the objective of the revolutionary program. It creates progress, provides human resources, makes everything work, makes men available, women replace them, and everyone will have something to do. Only those who are handicapped will be seated on chairs. For us, at this stage, he who stays seated in a chair or whose job requires a sitting position must be handicapped, a pregnant woman, or a woman who lives nearby [as heard]. But there is no need for an able-bodied man to be seated at work. He must use an axe, a tractor, a spraying machine, or anything else. This is the way if you want to build your country. It is a shame to see a strong man sitting 24 hours on a chair saying: And now we present to you a song by Fahd Ballan. Is this reasonable? This is ridiculous. You are right to laugh because this is not likely to create the future. How can an able-bodied man sit around and get a salary just by saying these words? This can be recorded on a cassette and then played automatically. Or bring a handicapped person who cannot work outside, if you need a person. A handicapped person in a wheelchair who would say: We present to you this or that, or we bring you the news bulletin. Or bring a woman who cannot go outside. Let her sit down.

All the factories, especially textiles and light and medium industries, must be completely occupied by women, and the offices there must be fully run by women. Likewise, women must be in the teaching and health sectors and in simple farming like gardens and green houses made of plastic and glass, including small farms. All this must be run by women. Cars inside the town are like coaches. They should be driven by women, not men. A car marked general public inside the cities must be driven by women, not men. They are like coaches. Buses inside towns are like coaches. Even a veiled woman can enter the bus, sit on the driver's seat, drive the bus, and stop and open the doors at bus stops without being seen by anyone or seeing anyone. Doors are open and closed and somebody at the back sells tickets. You can use a man for selling tickets or one of these women who sit on the pavements for small trades. Bring a veiled woman and let them drive buses. No one would see them at all. They would speak to no one, and they would have no relations with passengers. A woman sits down, takes the wheel, drives on, stops at bus stops, pushes a button, opens the doors, closes them, and then goes home, without any relations with passengers.

When you travel in airplanes or in a train, have you ever had a conversation with the aircraft captain or the driver of the train, or have you ever seen one of them at all? You have no relations with them. They have their private places where they are and one does not see them. They open and close doors; they take you from one stop to another and land at one airport from another and you never see them. If somebody asks you whether the pilot or the train driver is a man or a woman, you would say: I do not know. Black or white, you do not know. Tall or short, you cannot know. Likewise, concerning buses, if passengers are asked: Who has driven you, they would say, we do not know. Man or woman, they would say: We have not seen him. Tall or short, they would say: We have not seen. Black or white, they would say: We have not seen him. Passengers do not pay attention to the differences. All cars inside towns must be driven by women, because they are like coaches in streets; a woman driving a coach in a street. Why should a man drive a car? A dove can sit in it.

This program will make about half a million men available for work or fighting, and half a million women will replace men. Furthermore, this means economic revival, not only for the Jamahiriyah but also for families, for every individual among you. They would have an income and action. Men come on foot, walking kilometers, to get a job. You have the opportunity to work. I want all Libyans to work and have salaries, with incomes, money. This is an occasion. A woman who says that her pension for her deceased husband and social security money are not enough and who has a large family should be allowed to work and get a salary. If she does not work, then there is farming land to be distributed, with a farm for everyone. All the land is there [words indistinct] the farming land which you are exploiting, as for the rest of the land, you control it with some person surrounding it with fences. I have already told you: Anyone in need of a farm should look for an abandoned one and take it over. If a palm tree is not maintained, he can take it over. If a palm tree has dates and its owner does not pick them, then the palm tree should be seized under the slogan: The land is the property of all.

Under the banner of the land belongs to all, all Libyans, everyone, has the right to exploit this to satisfy his particular needs. There is another way to exploit: to become partners. Then, depending on whether it is services or production, as long as there is private partnership, leave Libyans out of it; set up a construction company but you must be partners in it—there will be employers and workers. Set up a cleaning company. Set up a home services company. All these you can set up; agriculture [words indistinct]. Who is preventing you?

There are proposed committees. I can see their benefit and you are free to discuss them. The training which was possible for the General People's Committee for Public Services, the training is—in my opinion people's committees and a general people's committee for training must be set up—vocational training. What do you call it? We have failed in training ourselves. In fact, we lack training. We are an illiterate people; backward, subjugated by colonialism, and made backward and ignorant by colonialism. We need to raise our proficiency through training, because those women who replace men, and men who have to do other kinds of work, need training in the new work. Therefore, this will be undertaken by people's committees everywhere, responsible to people's congresses, with specialist people. They will open training centers in every street; crash training, medium- and long-term training, and so on. This one will be trained in agriculture, that one in industry, the other in cleaning and so on; men and women. Therefore, especially if we decide on this revolutionary program, we would need to set up people's committees for training and a general people's committee for training.

[Word indistinct] and maritime sectors are very important but are neglected; from fishing, sponge harvesting, salt, fish breeding in lakes, ponds, and gulfs. All these resources are neglected now, because they are attached to other authorities which do not pay attention to them. In my opinion there should be a special independent authority for sea resources; from fish, sponge, and salt, to other things including fish breeding. Fish must be bred and not looked for in the depth of the seas. They are bred in the same way as [words indistinct].

There is also tourism and antiquities. Whether there will be a committee or not is another question but there should be an authority. You may object to people's committees of tourism and antiquities. This is a Mediterranean country and it must be a country of tourism. You have oil and have forgotten. Our neighboring countries are tourist countries and tourism brings in much income. There are plans to build tourist towns on the Libyan coast. Do you not like Europe and young Europeans? All right, it is possible to bring Europe to the Libyan coast. Tourist towns will be built in partnership with European firms on the Libyan coast. You can bring Europe to them; you can bring whatever you like in Europe to these towns. You can bring in anything that prompts you to go abroad. These tourist towns are not useless things. You have seen nightclubs [words indistinct] various lights, candy, and photographs. What else is there in tourist towns? You can bring Europe to the Libyan coast. This is not a problem, but an authority has to be responsible for tourism and antiquities.

Libya is internationally renowned for its antiquities and the antiquities are being abused. It is another question if you intend to destroy what has been left by predecessors. If you say we want to wipe out antiquities in North Africa, we will do it. Pass a resolution to destroy them and (Sibratah), (Libdah), Shahhat, (Jirmah), Bani Walid, and all the other places where there are antiquities will be destroyed. We will not leave Phonecian, Teutonic, Greek, Roman, Islamic, or other antiquities. There may be a resolution of this kind to wipe out antiquities. Then let us do it properly and wipe everything out completely. This may be better than the way they have been mishandled; stones from archeological sites have been taken for graves and agricultural projects. What is this? These have great historical and cultural value, and are neglected in this way.

Then there is the compulsory service law. The resolutions of the people's congresses can draft this law at this session, so that it can be implemented. I see that there are other people's committees which are necessary—in fact this program has failed due to the fact that there is no group taking it into consideration. I mean by this the mass mobilization and the revolutionary morale guidance. People's committees and a general people's committee should be established to handle this task.

What I have said about the revolutionary program requires people to begin to mobilize the masses every day. They should do so by every means, both visual and audio. We pin great hopes on them. In fact, we lack popular and mass mobilization; we lack revolutionary and morale guidance. We all fight illiteracy and backwardness. These committees can be established—the committees for mobilization and training and for protecting the marine wealth. As for tourism and antiquities, it is up to you to decide whether there should be committees to look after them or not. You are free to decide. But they should be independent.

Among the things which we said should be reviewed is what we said at Al-Zawiyah and the speeches we made at the sixth and 11th anniversaries about [words indistinct] and cost.

Political issues should be submitted to the people's congresses so that they can express their views on them. Among them is the dirty Amman conspiracy conference and its consequences. Had I been president of a republic or if I was the one who makes decisions in Libya, I would have immediately expelled the embassies of the Arab states which resumed their relations with the traitorous regime in Egypt. But because authority rests with the people's congresses, this matter is up to them. As far as I am concerned, I would prefer to see Libyan relations with all the Arab states broken because of this issue rather than see Libya have relations with all the Arab states at the expense of this issue.

The story you hear about Libya being isolated or not isolated—to hell with all that; all that is mere propaganda and empty words. The phrase Libya is isolated is a conspiracy whose aim is to subjugate you and make you submissive so that you will have dirty relations with reaction, Zionism, and imperialism and not isolate yourselves. If we do not isolate ourselves from this dirty camp, from whom should we isolate ourselves? He who is isolated is isolated by the people; we have the people on our side. If there are 20 or 15 traitorous rulers with whom we are in a state of enmity, does this mean that we are isolated? On the contrary! It means that we are against them but with the masses. The more we distance ourselves from the rulers, the closer we come to the Arab masses.

All the Arab peoples are with us. This stance will be appreciated by the Arab nation and its revolutionary forces, as well as by the Palestinian people and the revolutionary forces in the Palestinian resistance—and not the forces which are compromising. [applause]. What does it mean if we do not have relations with Kuwait or Saudi Arabia? What has Kuwait or Saudi Arabia done for us? Their money goes to the United States and then to Israel. Have they contributed to the great man-made river in Libya? Not a penny! Did they participate with you in the fortification of the coast? On the contrary, they give their money to the camp which is hostile to you in Chad so that it can be used in the fight against you. They are totally under U.S. control.

What is the benefit of having relations with these states, which are mere U.S. colonies? When they become liberated then we will have relations with them. What benefits do we derive from them? What is the good behind having an embassy here for Kuwait, or Saudi Arabia, or the UAE, or Bahrain, and for us to have a people's bureau in each of these states? A boycott is far better than this. It is better to determine our relations vis-a-vis this dirty conspiracy.

Now, when you say Egypt you mean Israel; and when you say Israel, you mean Egypt. An author once wrote that Egypt should be called Misrael [meaning Egypt-Israel]. He wrote that we should not say Egypt and Israel, but Misrael. This is the state of Misrael. Those who resumed relations with Egypt today are in fact preparing to recognize the enemy tomorrow.

Naturally, you are free. It is possible that the people's congress may have other views. But I say that if I had the power in my hand, I would have from the first day expelled the embassies in Libya which represent the states that have resumed relations with Egypt. See how quick they were! They could not wait. Each one followed the other. To see them like that you would have thought that they were racing each other to liberate Palestine. Were they forced to do so? They could not wait long enough. They did not wait for 1 or 2 years. Even before they arrived back in their own countries they began to send cables declaring the resumption of their relations.

Why are you so hypocritical towards your own peoples and towards the Arab nation, you traitors! You all like the Egyptian regime and want to resume relations with it. But you were shy.

Look at them and see how they have exposed themselves. Even before they returned from Amman they resumed their relations with Egypt. This means that they had wanted this resumption of relations before, but did not have the courage to do so. Why did they break off relations with Egypt during the era of 'Abd al-Nasir? Naturally, because Egypt today is different from the Egypt of yesterday. Why did they have amiable relations with Iran when there was the shah, the agent of the United States and Zionism? And now they are hostile to Iran. We told them to fight the shah. Did not the shah attack them; did he not occupy the Arab islands in the Arabian Gulf? Why did they not fight him? He attacked them and occupied the Greater and Lesser Tunbs. We said to them: Let us fight him. But they said: No, we are Muslim brethren. When the shah was in power, they were Muslims; and now when there is a revolution in Iran, are they no longer Muslims? Now the Iranians are Persians and we are Arabs?

They follow the U.S. line. When the United States was against 'Abd al-Nasir, they were against Egypt.

When the United States was against 'Abd al-Nasir, they turned against Egypt and hated it. Now that the United States has colonized Egypt, they have sided with Egypt. They love Egypt, although all their lives they hated Egypt. But, thank God, it has transpired that they can be led by none other than Egypt. When 'Abd al-Nasir was there in Egypt, they hated 'Abd al-Nasir because he was the champion of liberation and they were slaves. Now the truth has come out: Egypt is their leader. They need Muhammad 'Ali [the founder of Khedevi Dynasty in Egypt] in Egypt to turn them into colonies. All these regions were colonies for Muhammad 'Ali. I feel spite for them. I hope all these statelets become satellites of Egypt; so I do not care about relations with them. But to sever relations with them, with whom shall we sever them: the colonies?

I am happy that Egypt has become the leader and the commander. The present Egyptian president might be a traitor, but tomorrow someone else might come who will be like 'Abd al-Nasir. We want the Egyptian president to be the president of the Arabs. Let him smear their noses in the dust. They used to say Egypt should not be our leader, now they have found out that only Egypt can lead them.

I am happy; I am happy to see the Egyptian president become the president of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Morocco, and Jordan. Today Husni Mubarak is their president, but tomorrow another one might come who would not be Husni Mubarak. But if a liberator emerges, they will deny him and he will not be recognized. It is a matter of subservience and treason, and not an Egyptian issue.

However, they have made Egypt their leader and commander. But we want them to keep it up, for then, after Egypt is liberated, they will not be able to say that they do not want Egypt. Egypt is our vanguard and the leader. I do not want them to come later and say Egypt is just like us. How can Egypt be like you, when you cannot live for 10 years without Egypt? We tell them: Do not feel so happy about rushing to Egypt, because it is now a U.S. colony and an Israeli colony. Tomorrow Egypt will be liberated. We benefit from Egypt's domination of them. God willing, tomorrow Egypt will be free and Egypt's leadership will be established. Libya and Egypt might unite as one state which will become the leader of those subordinates. It is better for them to be subservient to Egypt rather than subservient to the shah of Iran.

When 'Abd al-Nasir was leading the liberation battle, they went to the shah of Iran saying: He is our Muslim brother. Well, even Khomeyni is a Muslim brother. Why? Because he has been reading the Koran since he was 15. Is not Khomeyni a Muslim? He is a Muslim. Why do they not consider him a Muslim brother now? The shah was considered a Muslim brother. This type of Islam makes one lose faith in Islam. This is Islam American style. When the United States was with Iran, Iran was considered Muslim, and we as Muslims were its brothers. When the United States turned against Iran, Iran was no longer considered Muslim, and we were against it.

Thus Muhammad has become the Yankee. The American Yankees have become Muhammad. They are the ones who tell us who is a Muslim and who is not, who is your brother in religion and who is not your brother in religion. What a shame and disgrace. It is very disgraceful to a country like Libya to have relations with the filthy regimes or to have relations with these traitorous regimes. Only the enemy benefits from them. If this is the situation, then we can do without them. [Chants of "If the whole world becomes our enemy, we will never abandon our principles"]

Of course this matter is left for the people's congresses to decide. The decision is not mine. I said that if I had the decision-making authority, I would have expelled their embassies this very day, as there is no use to be derived from them at all.

Be on the alert with regard to what they say about you isolating yourselves. They want you to submit and to abandon your pride and recognize the Egyptian regime and the Saudi regime, and to establish relations with reaction and establish relations with the United States. They say Libya is isolated. It is natural for you to isolate yourself from your enemy. It is an honor for you to break relations with the traitor and the evil. Are we seeking relationships of any sort or are we taking a serious stance toward history? The correct attitude is that of resisting the United States, breaking with the United States, breaking with the reactionary regime, and resisting the reactionary regimes. This is the correct stance. Replace this with relationships with them? What do we need relationships with them for? They are the ones who benefit from relations with us. They exploit it before their peoples and the secret revolutionary forces within their peoples. They tell them we have relations with Al-Qadhdhafi and we have relations with Libya, and they visit me and us in order to prolong their lives. If they turn against us, they [the secret revolutionary forces] will tell them: You are reactionaries and traitors and we will revolt against you.

This is exactly as in the days of 'Abd al-Nasir. They appeased him. They established relations with 'Abd al-Nasir in order to satisfy the secret revolutionary forces so that they would not be angry with them, for those who antagonized 'Abd al-Nasir brought upon themselves the wrath of the revolutionary forces. Even now, those who antagonize Libya anger the revolutionary forces in their countries. They try to maintain relations with Libya. They are the ones benefiting, not we. On the contrary, relations with them mutilate us before the revolutionary forces of the world and in the Arab world, and in the eyes of the secret revolutionary forces in their own countries. Relations with them harm us. I tell you these relations are not beneficial to us.

What affected the Israelis with whom they severed relations for 40 years? What has happened to them? Now they are subservient to Israel. They severed relations with Egypt for 10 years. What harm has that done to Egypt? Now they have become subservient to it. It is like Bourguiba said: Zero plus zero plus zero equals zero. Add the donkey stable to Kuwait, to Saudi Arabia, to Abu Dhabi, and so forth, and Morocco, and what you get is zero. What do you need with these zeros?

These are dead forces until they are liberated. During talks with Iranian President Khamene'i, we disagreed when he used the term Persian Gulf. I told him listen, if you say the Persian Gulf I will say the Arabian Gulf. He answered me saying: Listen, the day when the Arab side in the Gulf becomes revolutionary like us, you may then call it the Arabian Gulf, the Kuwaiti Gulf, call it what you like; we have no objection, when the Arabs, who are on the other side of the Gulf are liberated from U.S. domination, to calling it the Arabian Gulf. As for the time being, the Arab quarter...[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] I told him even the Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb were occupied by the shah; therefore, you should withdraw from them. He asked: Who shall I give them to? I said give them to the Arabs. You mean to the Americans? he replied. If you, Al-Qadhdhafi, agree that the Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb become U.S. bases, this is something new. If you want these islands to remain liberated, leave them to Iran, until the Arabs liberate themselves from the United States, then we will hand them over to the one who is free, and ask him to take them so that they will not become U.S. bases. This is in fact like Aozou, because if we give Aozou to Chad it might become a base for the United States, or the Israelis, or NATO, or France, and could represent a serious threat to you and to the whole region in North Africa.

When Chad becomes free, I will not be interested in it because Aozou is there. I will not be interested in whether Aozou is Libyan or Chadian; this will not bother me at all. However, now there is a grave danger. President Khamene'i himself put this logic to me. He told me that when the Arabs are liberated from the United States, they can take the Gulf islands that were occupied by the shah; but if I hand them over now, who shall I hand them over to? Do you want me to give them to the United States? This is true, and he is right.

On this occasion, I would like to greet the new era in Tunisia. [applause] I really believe that a new era has begun in Tunisia, and an old era has lapsed; an era which seriously harmed relations of brotherhood and neighborhood—it disavowed the charters and agreements, it harmed the Tunisian people by deciding to boycott its fraternal Libyan people. Those who clapped for and hailed those dreadful acts, all that harmed relations between neighbors and brothers, is finished. Thank God, we have lived until we have witnessed the establishment of the new era in Tunisia. We have witnessed the defeat of the enemies of the Tunisian peoples, the foes of the Libyan peoples, the enemies of the Jerba Declaration and the enemies of the Arab nation, brotherhood, and good neighborhood. Some of them are now runaways and prisoners. Thank God, this is a victory from God, which was realised by the Tunisian national forces without any outside intervention, or plotting or any misdeed, thus proving that scheming beyond the borders and plotting from outside does not change anything. When the free sons of Tunisia wanted change and to build a new era, they carried out change, receiving orders from nobody.

We should extend our helping hand to our brothers in Tunisia and to the brotherly Tunisian people, to give them whatever they need to build their new era, to build their new era which will be a gain for us if order prevails for these brothers. Our gain now is to emphasize the new era in Tunisia, because it is an era void of complexes, void of sensitivities, void of bad ulterior motives. The persons who have assumed responsibility do not hate Libya, they do not hate their Libyan brothers, they have no complexes. For us their files are blank. With regard to matters inside Tunisia, this concerns our Tunisian brothers. They are to evaluate each other. We should open a new page with Tunisia; a new phase should be established with Tunisia along the path of the common struggle for Arab unity. We should forget the past completely; we should remember only the positive things like the Jerba Declaration.

As for the Gulf war, in the past I spoke about the political issues that might be discussed by the people's congresses; the point of view on this is clear. In fact, this war, specifically its continuation between Iran and Iraq, has only served the United States and the Israelis, and now it is serving the treacherous regime in Egypt. Perhaps, had it not been for the Iraq-Iran war, these reactionary states would not have rushed into resuming their diplomatic relations with the treacherous regime in Egypt. They are afraid of Iran, they are afriad of the war, consequently they immediaely resumed relations seeking shelter through Egypt—but one who does not possess something cannot give it away [Arab saying]. Egypt itself is defeated, it has lost its dignity, its regime has squandered the dignity of Egypt, it has lost Sinai which is now under international and U.S. domination, and Egyptians are not allowed to visit it. Egypt, which was defeated in the war against the Israelis and the Americans, cannot protect Kuwait or the Gulf.

Nevertheless, the continuation of this war is in reality a plot against Islam, Arabism, and Palestine. Pressure should be kept specifically on the Iranian side to put an end to its war against Iraq. With regard to its war against other states, it could be appropriately placed. These countries are personally involved in the war; these states are U.S. bases and colonies. They have plotted against Iranian oil and the Iranian Revolution, they allied themselves with the United States, therefore they deserve what they are getting. As for the war between Iran and Iraq it should be halted; its continuation benefits the Israelis and the Americans, it has now benefitted the treacherous regime in Egypt. The Libyan people should exercise all efforts with Iranian people to that end.

Therefore, during our upcoming meetings we will decide external policy; during this period we should bolster relations with the world's progressive forces and the forces that are struggling with us against imperialism led by the United States. We should consolidate our relations with the Soviet Union, socialist countries, and African progressive countries. We should not view them traditionally as we did in the past. In the light of recent developments, there should be a rallying of forces that are united by common aims, or at least they should further their relations.

We and the Soviet Union and the socialist community are linked by joint objectives, by the struggle against the United States, against imperialism, against war, against nuclear armament, and for peace, for freedom, for socialism. These are joint objectives that link us. Therefore, we must not give away friendship with these forces; we must further promote our relationship with all these states. We deal with them as separate states to begin with and then as a socialist camp as a whole. We deal with them separately, state by state, at the beginning, including the Soviet Union. We look at them first on a bilateral basis, and then as a whole. Likewise with the African progressive forces, because the United States and France, as imperialist forces, have set the African reactionary forces against us, making them into an anti-Libyan alliance. This includes, for instance, Zaire, the Egyptian regime, the previous Numaryi regime in Sudan, Central Africa, Cameroon—the states that have recognised the Zionist enemy and which are not in the imperialist French and U.S. orbit. They are all now fighting in Chad against us.

Therefore, we in turn must reinforce our relations with the African progressive countries, and extend to them a helping hand, because this is in our interests. When you help a state it is not for nothing. You help a state for your own interests, so that it may stand by your side. We stand with them so that they may stand with us. There is a common interest for the two sides to stand with each other.

Concerning foreign relations, they are studied. They are not established by directives. They are studied with precision and calm. There are matters we deal with promptly, and others which we tackle without hurry. Regarding Egypt, we do not need it, even if we boycott it. There is a desert and the great sand dunes between it and us. It is Egypt that needs us. We do not need these states that have received orders from the United States and resumed relations with the Egyptian regime. As far as we are concerned, we do not receive orders from the United States. At the same time, we do not need it; Egypt is the one that needs Libya in its present situation. What would Egypt offer to Libya? Nothing. It is Libya that has something to offer to Egypt. Egypt's regime will end from inside, like Al-Sadat ended, like Faruq finished.

Besides, we challenge them. What would Egypt offer Mauritania, which has resumed relations with it? Nothing. Likewise, Egypt cannot defend Kuwait because it cannot even defend the Suez Canal. This is simply the case of colonies aligning themselves with one another in one allinace under U.S. command.

When you debate relations with the socialist states and the USSR, you should discuss them deeply and seriously. There is no harm, given that we are friends of the Soviet Union, to discuss it sharply, to reproach it, to point out what we need and what its benefit is, etc. We have rendered a great service to the socialist community, to the cause of peace, to the Soviet Union, because the liberation of Libya from U.S. and British bases has given breathing space to the Soviet Union. Bases used to form a line from Morocco to Libya, to Egypt, to occupied Palestine, to Turkey. All these used to form a single chain against the Soviet Union. We broke this chain by liberating 2,000 kilometers of Mediterranean coast. Libya had, in other words, inflicted great damage to imperialism with the outbreak of the revolution. It offered a great service to the Soviet Union and the socialist community, which were the target of imperialism through its occupation of Libya and its advance toward them in order to surround them.

Furthermore, Libya is a rich state, and the Soviet Union would benefit if Libya is an economic partner and a client of the Soviet Union. Libya is not a state which begs or needs assistance. Therefore, the Soviet Union has benefited from Libya, which is a partner that benefits the Soviet Union. So, we must also benefit from the Soviet Union. We address the Soviet Union with frankness, clarity, and force. All this must be decided at the people's congresses in the way you deem fit.

There is a remark which may not at all be related to these grave issues which I have tackled, but it is related to the people's congresses in any of their sessions. Naturally we need a (?regrading) operation: We have been tackling international issues, and we are going to go down to an extremely social matter. This preamble is necessary before I tackle it, because a law must be enacted by the people's congresses or any legislative body which forbids the spread, the existence of a despicable social phenomena which ought not to exist: A teacher marrying his pupil. Such things are prohibited in many countries. Relations of this kind are not permitted. A doctor marrying his nurse; an officer wedding the female conscript in his unit or detachment. If you have not paid attention to these things they create serious relations likely to [words indistinct]. This is not permissible. In certain eras and in certain cultures these things used to be punished by stoning the person to death. The punishment used to be stoning to death.

This is not permissible at all. If you are a teacher teaching girls and then you show bias in favor of one of them because you want to marry her, then you are no longer fair. You may ensure her passage to the upper class; you may give her unfair marks. One must be neutral in such circumstances. No, this is not permissible. This is a great social crime. Like an officer with a unit of female conscripts in front of him who shows bias toward one of them, this is not feasible. Even in fighting: He may send in one of the girls and not the other one. The doctor has nurses working with him. The marriage of a student to a student, a lecturer to a lecturer, a doctor to a doctor or an officer to an officer is alright because these are equal relationships, while the other kind of relationships cause imbalance. I have noticed that you are not aware of this phenomenon and it is spreading in Libyan society. I have seen it and I was surprised because these kinds of things are disapproved of and I did not think they were happening. However, if they are happening then they must be prohibited. These and like practices should be prohibited with a severe punishment. Even before Islam there existed certain practices; however, when Islam prevailed it prohibited these practices.

What has been done is done but there must be no more. We are not saying that those who got married should divorce. No. What we are saying is that from now on these practices must not happen. In fact it indicates moral deterioration and a decline in social conditions. It indicates that all social standards are upset if it happens in the society. This question you cannot solve except by law, so that when someone comes to the notary or to the court to get married saying that this is my student, or my enlisted soldier, or my secretary, it will be forbidden. If a head of a firm intends to marry one of his female employees, it should be forbidden because he will be biased toward her and the entire transactions of the firm will be spoiled. These practices are forbidden in many countries, even in Europe which is not Muslim.

This concerns not only Islam; it is a social question. Many countries forbid marriage to one's secretary and consider it a major crime. Even by having an affair with his secretary, he would fall socially, politically, and in all aspects. How could a teacher marry one of his students? It is unreasonable. That is it, he becomes unsuitable to teach the class.

Well, I have finsihed my comments. Thus you will discuss and draft your agenda. However, what concerns me, after this encounter, is that I want to draw the attention of the revolutionary committees to urging the masses to full mobilization, to hold the people's conference on a large scale, and to take adequate time to discuss the revolutionary program in order to implement it democratically or to abandon it democratically—it is the same thing.

We emphasize the declaration of freedom. Forward and the struggle continues. [chants]

Comparison of Al-Qadhdhafi Interview on Issues

Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic at 1330 GMT on 1 December carries a report on an interview with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by French television's Channel Five. The Tripoli Domestic report has been compared with the Tripoli JANA Arabic version published in the 30 November Near East & South Asia *Daily Report*, pages 14 and 15, revealing the following variations in the Tripoli radio version:

Page 14, column two, paragraph two, end of sentence one to beginning of sentence two reads: ...establishment of peace. I am among those who led the campaign in the world against these missiles. I am still leading this campaign for the sake of peace, the elimination of missiles, the complete elimination of nuclear arms in the world, complete disarmament, and even the elimination of armies and governments and the establishment of the Jamahiriyah in the world so that perpetual peace is established among peoples. However, it is... (adding sentences)

Same page, same column, same paragraph, sentence five reads: My people, the Chadian people, the Nicaraguan people, the Lebanese peoples, the Syrian people, the Sudanese, and... (adding words)

Same page, same column, same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...agreement becomes collective, and so that we would all contribute to an international detente and peace. (adding words)

Same page, same column, paragraph three, first sentence reads: ...have heard rumors spread by the English about this issue. However, the struggle... (adding words)

Same page, same column, same paragraph, sentence six reads: ...to be just. The Irish people have paid the price of the lives of their sons, generation after generation. I support such a cause and the Irish... (changing punctuation and adding sentences)

Same page, same column, paragraph four, end of sentence two to beginning of sentence three reads: ...colonized by Britain. The Irish are fighting in order to free their country from the unjustified British hegemony, which is a religiously based effort to colonize the north of Ireland. Ireland should be united. I am, therefore,... (adding sentences)

Same page, last paragraph, last sentence reads: ...the world's people. The French people should realize that its sons are dying in regions in which they have no interest. (adding sentence)

Page 15, column one, paragraph two, sentence three to beginning of sentence five reads: Europe has involved itself in the problems of the Middle East, the Arab region, and the Third World, particularly the Arab countries. Consequently it is paying the price for embroiling itself in our problems because it shelters terrorists, the terrorists seek refuge in Europe, which protects them with its police and shelters them. Thus terrorism moved to Europe. To avoid these... (rewording sentences and adding sentence)

Same page, same column, same paragraph, sentence six reads: The proof for that is that there is a group of Libyans and Syrians, wanted by Interpol, who are criminals and who carry out sabotage, terrorism, robbery, counterfeiting, and arms and drug sales. (rewording and adding to sentence)

Same page, same column, same paragraph, end of sentence eight reads: ...and find solutions to the existing problems between us and the Europeans. We agree on noninterference in internal affairs and that every one of us hands over what he has [as heard]. Even the hostage... (adding words and new sentence)

Same page, same column, paragraph six, end of sentence two to sentence three reads: ...and tribal one. The solution is that all these tribes should take part in ruling Chad, because the one ruling Chad now is one side from one tribe. The heart of... (adding sentence)

Mauritania

11 Receive Death Sentence for Plotting Coup

AB012053 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1830 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Excerpt] In Mauritania, 11 of the 51 persons on trial since 18 November for the abortive coup against the Nouakchott regime have been sentenced to death. The death sentence was pronounced against 11 of the 51 people who were involved in the plot uncovered on 22 October, a plot intended to overthrow President Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya. Others were condemned to life imprisonment with hard labor. The State Security Court, which began its hearings on 18 November, was scheduled to hear the arguments of the defense today. [passage omitted]

Paper Urges 'True Dialogue' Between Races

AB011640 Paris AFP in French 1800 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Dakar, 30 Nov (AFP)—The urgency of "initiating a serious debate on Mauritanian national and social issues" was underlined today by the Muslim Senegalese weekly *Wal Fadjri* [words indistinct] on the 22 October coup attempt in Mauritania. About 50 Army officers and noncommissioned officers belonging to the Toucouleurs black African ethnic group were arrested after the [words indistinct].

"The law, which is one and indivisible, must be applied, but in addition, it is imperative that a true dialogue be established between the various groups of the nation. To shed blood, even in the name of the law, will not serve as an example but will reduce the chances for a dialogue," the paper added. "Each and every one," it continued, "must do everything possible so that discussions can at least begin. Without this, a great void will be left which could be exploited by extremists." *Wal Fadjri*, in conclusion, stressed that "the solution to the crisis in Mauritanian society does not lie in rejecting one race or culture in favor of another. It can be found in the ability and desire of each and every one to live together in respect and equality."

Sudan

Egyptian Premier Makes Khartoum Stopover

JN011800 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 1st (SUNA)—Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi made a stopover at Khartoum airport, here Tuesday, coming from Ethiopia where he attended the extraordinary African economic summit conference held in Addis Ababa between Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st on African countries debts. The Egyptian premier was greeted and seen off at the airport by his Sudanese counterpart Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Ma'mun Sanadah. Dr Sidqi described as "extremely positive" the conference's results saying that it was the first time that African countries stand together and call for radical solutions to Africa's foreign debts problem.

In a press statement at the airport, Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said the conference appealed on lending countries and organizations to work for lessening the burden of debts whether by reducing debts profits or by broadening the grace periods. The conference also demanded the rich countries to help in ameliorating rates of trade exchange in a way that serves economies of underdeveloped countries.

The Egyptian Premier Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said the underdeveloped African countries affirmed that they would work for developing their economies on great rates and accept foreign credits only in the light of their development needs, to avoid increases in the debts services. Dr. Sidqi pinpointed that an agreement was reached in the conference that the Organization of African Unity's Headquarters should launch a call for convening of an international conference to tackle the problem of Africa's debts, pointing out that the Addis Ababa economic summit was attended by the indebted countries only and that resolving the issue requires understanding of lending countries and organizations.

Dr. Sidqi who said that the call for the international conference would be launched so that the conference be held by 1988, expressed hopes that the conference will be able to find suitable solutions to this problem and adopt the African countries' view over the issue of debts formulated at Addis Ababa conference.

On Al-Mahdi, Mengistu Meeting

JN011818 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, Dec—1—(SUNA)—A joint meeting between Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam will take place shortly, Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi announced. Sidqi, who stopped over at Khartoum airport today returning from Ethiopia where he participated in the African economic summit said following a meeting with Al-Mahdi, a date for the expected encounter between Al-Mahdi and Mengistu will be fixed shortly.

The Egyptian prime minister said Al-Mahdi and the Ethiopian leader have consented to the reconciliation meeting, which he carried out in the name of Egypt and its President Husni Mubarak, to preserve the security of the region and to stop escalating conflict between the two neighbouring countries.

Al-Mahdi, in a press statement following his meeting with Sidqi expressed Sudan Government and people thanks to the Egyptian Government for its deep concern over the problems and security of Sudan. He described the Egyptian concern over Sudan security as natural.

"We expected reviewing all the issues and problems between Sudan and Ethiopia to reach a just peace" Al-Mahdi said, confirming that peace is always an outcome of such encounter.

Sanadah on Eritrea 'Problem,' Ethiopian Clash

JN011517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA)—Foreign Minister Dr Ma'mun Sanadah will leave for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 5 December at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister.

In a statement to *Al-Ayyam*, the minister noted that current developments, especially the occupation of the Kurmuk region and Ethiopia's role in this, will comprise a great portion of his talks with Saudi officials. He added that these discussions will also cover bilateral relations, especially economic ties. He noted added that after his return from Saudi Arabia, he will visit Kuwait at the invitation of its foreign minister. Sanadah indicated that the two visits come under the framework of the Arab and African efforts of Sudan to explain the Ethiopian role in the Kurmuk attack.

As for the Sudanese stand on the Eritrean problem, the foreign minister reiterated that the Eritrean presence in Sudan is no larger than that of refugees, who are additionally like all other refugees. He affirmed that Sudan is not supporting the Eritrean refugees militarily, and that it is not supplying them with weapons or [word indistinct]

In discussing the reactions of Arab and African states informed by Sudan on the Ethiopian aggression, the minister stated that the first positive response came from Egypt. He added that this reaction was represented by the recent visit to Sudan by Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, as well as by the Egyptian minister's talks with officials on this issue. Sanadah noted that Sudan will lodge official protests with the United Nations, the Arab League, and the OAU on the issue over the next 2 days.

Communist Head Urges 'Recapture' of Kurmuk

JN291824 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 29 (SUNA)—Secretary General of the Sudanese Communist Party "SCP" Muhammad Ibrahim Nugud has welcomed the Council of the States intiative which calls for backing the Armed Forces in its battle to recapture Kurmuk town occupied recently by Sudan People's Liberation Movement "SPLM". Nugud, in a press statement following a meeting with the Council of the State here today, said the SCP will not allow exploiting the slogan of backing the Armed Forces in political bargainings that lead to a military coup.

The Sudanese Communist Party expressed his party's readiness to contribute in boosting the Council of the State's initiative. [sentence as received]

Nugud stressed the necessity of recapturing Kurmuk town. He described the recapturing of this bordering town with Ethiopia, as a step for holding the proposed constitutional conference which will tackle the country's political problems, top of them the southern question.

He called for stopping the exploitation of Sudan and Ethiopia's territories for aggression against each other. "The military operations on the border of Sudan with Ethiopia, Chad, Uganda and Zaire have to stop," Nugud said adding that the policy of good neighbouring must be put into effective.

The Council of the State has received, the same day, representatives of Arab Socialist Nasirist Party, and Islamic Socialist Party who asserted their support to the mobilization and backing of the Armed Forces.

Supreme Court Approves May Plotters Verdict
JN011857 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 1st, (SUNA)—The Supreme Court has approved the verdict of life-imprisonment with special treatment to May plotters submitted by the State Security Court. The conviction which was reached in 1986 is to be applied against Abu al-Kasim Muhammad Ibrahim, Zayid al-'Abidin, Muhammad 'Abd al-Kadir, Khalil Hasan 'Abbas, and Ma'mun 'Awad Abu Zayid. The findings of the Supreme Court stated that the judgment of the Security Court is equivalent to crime committed. However, it criticised the decision of the subject court concerning the special treatment as it has not defined reasons for this part, but it said that nothing make it interfere in what has been reached by the subject court.

Tunisia

Government Adopts New Measures on Religion
LD272325 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Several measures were adopted in implementing the first item of the Constitution, which stipulates that Islam is the religion of the state, within an attempt by his excellency the president of the Republic to care for religious matters and to spread eminent religous values throughout society. This was done during a working session held by His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali at noon at the Republican Palace. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche and a number of members of the government.

These measures call for the following:

Renaming the Faculty of Shari'a and Theology with its former name, that is, the Zaitouna Faculty of Theology;

Increasing the number of members of the Higher Islamic Council from 10 to 15 to guarantee wider representation. Abdallah Oussaifi, Abderrahman Khlif, (Ahmed Jbir), Abdelwaheb Boudhiba, and Bechir Arbi will be added as members;

Consulting the Higher Islamic Council on matters related to the curricula of the faculty;

Seeking to build new premises for the Zaitouna faculty;

Providing a budget for the Council to enable it to undertake its internal and external responsibilities;

Having the Higher Islamic Council issue a periodical religious magazine, *El Hidayah*;

Issuing legislation to correct the legal condition of the mosques and to protect them;

Training and retraining imams and preachers according to needs, in collaboration with the Zaitouna faculty and the Higher Islamic Council;

Mentioning the Hegira calendar in the official Tunisian gazette;

Broadcasting the call for prayers on radio and television, both nationally and regionally;

Consulting the Higher Islamic Council on religious curricula;

Seeking to provide religious care for our emigrant citizens at their workplaces abroad.

PUP Leader Meets Baccouche, Pledges Support
LD281554 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Mr Hedi Baccouche met with Mr Mohamed Belhaj Ammar, secretary general of the People's Unity Party [PUP], yesterday evening at the Casbah Palace. After their meeting, Ammar stated: We had the honor of meeting his excellency the prime minister on behalf of the PUP. Our talks were serious and positive. We tackled all the issues concerning the country and the current situation, as well as ways of living up to the 7 November statement by the president of the Republic. We stressed to his excellency the prime minister our perseverance in practicing real democratic action, on the basis of consultations with all the patriotic forces and all the political trends; practicing comprehensive and continuous self-criticism in every action; and eschewing individual action and bureaucratic behavior. We agreed with the prime minister to support the people's struggles and their legitimate aspirations, and to consolidate the jamahiri organizations on the level of cohesion, solidarity, and rapprochement.

Mr Mohamed Belhaj Ammar also stated: In speaking with the prime minister, we also emphasized our attachment to the historic 7 November statement of his excellency the president and our desire to turn it into reality, to build the Tunisia of tomorrow. We further stressed that any attempt to forestall this event should be resisted, and that we should work for this national salvation by taking speedy practical measures to achieve the desired freedom for the Tunisian citizen and society. This can boost the popular enthusiasm and drive all dynamic and patriotic forces, no matter what their stands are, to spontaneously contribute to saving the country. We also indicated our support for the fact that Tunisia's future lies in its attachment to the Arab Maghreb and to Arab unity. We were in complete agreement on this issue. [passage omitted]

MTI's Mourrou on 'Recent Change,' Ben Ali

JN251803 Amman AL-LIWA' in Arabic 25 Nov 87 p 12

[Interview with Abdelfettah Mourrou, secretary general of the Islamic Tendency Movement, by an unnamed correspondent—date and place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] How does the Islamic Tendency Movement [MTI] view the recent change?

[Mourrou] Before we answer this question, we should discuss the period that preceded this change. Bourguiba's rule was characterized by autocracy. It also paralyzed the constitutional institutions and differentiated between slogans and practice. This issue started to follow a dangerous trend in 1975, when the Constitution was amended and Bourguiba was named president for life. This also gradually distanced the people from their right to determine the appropriate system of government and to select those that would govern their country. That period witnessed a strike in the labor movement in 1978. Some youths then reacted to this strike and stirred up riots in the city of Qafsah in 1980. This incident led to the removal of Hedi Nouira and the appointment of Mohamed Mazali as prime minister in April 1981.

Since then, the issue of who will succeed [Borguiba] has overwhelmed all other important issues in Tunisia. Officials in the ruling party and the government no longer focused their attention on solving economic, social, and educational problems. Instead, they competed to succeed Bourguiba. This, in turn, led to the MTI and the Islamists receiving further blows. Although Bourguiba approved the plurality of parties in 1981, some persons close to him exploited his vanity and led him to weaken this policy. As a result, MTI members were tried in 1981, the legislative elections were aborted in October of that year, and the bread disturbances took place in 1984. The next year, the labor movements were weakened as blows were struck against their organization. Mzali was removed and tried. Every opponent, especially the Islamists, was pursued; and a fierce war was waged against religion as a whole.

This campaign led to the recent trial of MTI members and leaders, to the violation of personal freedoms, to the search of popular quarters in search of men of religion, and to other religious phenomena in public and private institutions. All this in turn created crises and fear for the future.

Zine El Abidine Ben Ali then began his move in this context. He was promoted from his post of interior minister to the post of prime minister. When he began to frequent the palace, he discovered that those close to Bourguiba wanted to stain his [Ben Ali's] hands with the blood of the MTI leaders. Ben Ali therefore carried out the recent change to end the lengthy period of a political vacuum, as well as to bring in a new era in the history of the country. This step was welcomed with popular support, for every citizen expected some type of change. Many people also believed that the former situation should not continue, especially with regard to our movement, which includes many patriotic youths and which was negatively affected by the former era. Therefore, our movement expressed its full support for the change that took place within the framework of the Constitution. Moreover, this change did not shed any innocent blood or cause any new tragedies.

[Correspondent] What, in your opinion, is required of the new regime?

[Mourrou] The MTI believes that the new president should continue to display the audacity that prompted him to end the rule of the former president, by injecting a new spirit into political life. We believe that all Tunisians, without exception, are interested in shaping the destiny of their country. They have reached a level of awareness and a sense of responsibility that qualify them to decide their own affairs. There should be no trusteeship imposed on the Tunisian people by either a president, a leader, or a political party. This is only possible with the declaration of a general legislative amnesty that restores respect to all victims of the defunct regime and paves the way for them to make their contributions through political and social organizations.

The second step required of the president is to announce the immediate dissolution of the Parliament and to pave the way for free and legitimate elections. The third step is to obliterate the effects of the injustices visited on the members of the MTI by enabling them to return to normal life. This should consider the fact that they are ordinary citizens who should enjoy equal rights and be given the opportunity to meet the obligations of other ordinary citizens. Tunisia is not suffering from a lack of slogans. What Tunisia really lacks is the dichotomy between slogans and reality. The lack of confidence is largely what underlies the terrible economic, social, and political crisis that has prevailed over the past years. Everyone harbors fears about his destiny , his status, and for his sons. Therefore, the new president should restore trust to the Tunisian people and bestow peace and security on them.

We believe that security cannot be attained by police campaigns, arrests, or court trials. Security can be achieved when all are allowed to exercise their basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Our movement believes that the Tunisia of 1987 rejects political trials, detentions due to personal beliefs, the current press law, the State Security Court, homes being stormed into, and women being chased because of the clothes they are wearing. The new president must respond to these popular ambitions favorably and achieve a consensus as a president for all Tunisians, not just one party.

[Correspondent] Why do you believe that Bourguiba sought to stain the hands of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali with the blood of MTI leaders?

[Mourrou] It is no secret that there were differences of opinion between Mahmoud Ben Hocine, an adviser to the former president, and Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who was then prime minister, over the cabinet changes Ben Ali made. Ben Hocine had wanted to be appointed prime minister. When his efforts failed, he incited Bourguiba to oppose the new ministerial selections, contending that they included six ministers from Susah, the hometown of Ben Ali, and only five from Bourguiba's hometown hometown of Al-Munastir. Ben Hocine also told Bourguiba that his popularity was deteriorating in the face of the Islamic tide, and that the trial of the Islamists had failed to achieve its objective. Ben Hocine likewise told the former president that he would never be able to rest at ease as long as [MTI leader] Ghannouchi and his group lived. The aim behind this statement was to prompt a retrial and to execute the leadership of the movement, including Ghannouchi.

Ben Ali believed the president's decision to retry the Islamists would cause security in the country to deteriorate. He therefore decided to uproot the disease itself. To all this, we also add the interference of Mansour Skhiri, the butcher of the former regime, as well as the attempts Mohamed Sayah made in this regard. Sayah was the biggest loser in the competition to succeed Borguib. He therefore spread rumors about Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, including his complicity with the MTI and his efforts to remove Bourguiba. These three men and their followers were arrested after the new change.

[Correspondent] Were there any contacts between the MTI and Ben Ali prior to the recent movement?

[Mourrou] The MTI did not hold any contacts with him. Since he was prime minister of the regime, we were apprehensive about contacting him, even though we knew he only carried out decisions made by the president. Now that he has become the decisionmaker, we do not see anything that prevents us from addressing him directly, so that he can remedy unjust things that have been done.

[Correspondent] Have there been talks following the changes?

[Mourrou] No. We welcomed the change in our statement, which was published in the press. In our declaration, we specified our belief that the new president's statement contained positive points that we supported, based on our principled stands. We affirmed that in spite of the repressive measures, the MTI was willing to turn a new leaf to prevent Tunisia from returning to despotic rule.

[Correspondent] What does the MTI think of the new state of affairs in Tunisia?

[Mourrou] The MTI has one immediate demand: to set political activity in Tunisia on the right course.

[Correspondent] What do you mean by this?

[Mourrou] I mean that political struggle must be transformed from personal disputes governed by narrow interests into a competition to benefit the public interest. This must take place through political groups organized within a constitutional framework, with the people acting as the judge.

[Correspodnent] Will you call for amending the present Constitution?

[Mourrou] Except for some provisions on the question of succession and the life presidency, we think that the Constitution is progressive. It has many positive points. There are provisions that state authority rests with the people, one on the independence of the judiciary, one concerning the parliament's supervision of government actions, and the measure on the constitutional court's supervision of the parliament and the executive branch. There are also the measures safeguarding individual and public liberties, the right to the freedom of expression and to the freedom to congregate, and the provision securing trade union rights and the right to strike. All these rights remained only ink on paper during the previous regime and were not put into effect. Elections were rigged. The judiciary was exploited to persecute the opposition. The constitutional court was not established. Individual and public liberties were also restricted by exceptional laws such as the societies law, which was promulgated in 1959, and the press law, which went into effect in 1974. Our demand now is not to abrogate the Constitution but instead to apply its provisions.

We used to accuse the former regime of violating the Constitution and the existing laws. We are not, as many believe, a movement that wants to work outside the law.

Our movement reaffirms its commitment to act within the law. We want to give the state institutions the opportunity to carry out their duty to change the law.

[Correspondent] How does the question of Islam arise here?

[Mourrou] It is known that Islam was established on firm bases such as respect for the freedom of man and restoring the right of decisionmaking, within the limits of the laws of God, to the people. We believe the Tunisian Constitution guarantees this. In its first chapter, the Constitution states that Tunisia is an independent state, that Islam is its religion, that Arabic is its language, and that its system is republican.

[Correspondent] Will you continue to ask for permission to carry out party work?

[Mourrou] The current situation in Tunisia requires all national energy to be harnessed to save the country from its crisis. We believe that Tunisia cannot survive without any of its resources. Work to reform the situation must be carried out through legally recognized institutions. Therefore, we have applied to form a political party. We insist on our application. Nonetheless, we do not wish to embarrass the new president by immediately repeating our demand; we believe that time will reveal the good intentions, prove the national tendencies in our work, and remove all the doubts that the previous regime sought to cast on our movement. We call for an immediate dialogue whose results can allow our movement to carry out political, cultural, and social activities.

[Correspondent] Who is your negotiator with the new regime?

[Mourrou] The MTI has its institutions and works through them. Foremost among these institutions is its Political Bureau, which is headed by Rachid Ghannouchi. We believe that dialogue must be conducted through the institutions of the MTI.

[Correspondent] Does this mean a refusal to negotiate as long as Rachid Ghannouchi remains in prison?

[Mourrou] Your question is premature. We have not yet been given such an offer. The regime has issued a statement which we replied to with one of our own. We are waiting for a practical formula to resolve the dilemma, and we are prepared to cooperate reasonably and without excesses or extremism. We believe that proclaiming a general amnesty would be the best expression of good intentions. This will be seen as a gesture toward our movement and toward all the oppressed and the victims of the previous regime. However, what I am saying should not be construed as a precondition for a dialogue.

[Correspondent] If the MTI was permitted to carry out party activities and it became a part of the active political scene, how would it view external issues such as Lebanon, Palestine, and Afghanistan?

[Mourrou] We believe the Islamic dimension is necessary for Tunisia. Tunisia's geographic position between Europe and the Arab and Muslim world qualifies it to carry out a primary role in the area. On the Muslim level, we emphasize the need to enable the Palestinian people to attain their legitimate rights.

We believe the solution in Afghanistan is to restore the rights of the Afghan people and to expel the colonial forces that are committing aggression against the people. We believe that the solution in Lebanon is reconciliation.

Kuwait

Oil Minister Denies Reported OPEC Price Hike

LD020942 Kuwait KUNA in English 0839 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Nicosia, Dec 2 (KUNA)—Kuwait's Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adbi has dismissed reports that his country will seek an increase in the price of a barrel of crude during 1988 and suggested acceptance of OPEC Secretariat production figure of 18.4 m/b/d [million barrels per day] in the course of the said year.

He was commenting on a report by Iran's Deputy Oil Minister Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have joined other OPEC members in a drive to raise the reference price to 20 dollars for next year at next week's Vienna OPEC conference. Saudi Arabia had already denied the Iranian claims.

According to press reports, Kazempur-Arbadili said that a consensus was emerging within the organisation of petroleum exporting countries to raise the reference price to 20 dollars a barrel at the December 9 OPEC conference in Vienna and that there were indications that even Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were considering a price increase.

"We have not been in contact with the Iranians and we do not know who gave them that mistaken impression," Al-Khalifa was quoted by the Nicosia-based *Middle East Economic Survey* (*MEES*) in its November 30 edition.

In the interview made by *MEES* with Al-Khalifa, the Kuwaiti minister was quoted as saying that "our position is firm in keeping the 18 dollar a barrel OPEC price unchanged, and this is not something we would be willing to change our minds about."

Commenting on OPEC output ceiling for 1988, Al-Khalifa told the economic weekly that he thought that it would be justified to accept a production figure very close to OPEC Secretariat's estimate of 18 mn b/d for next year's demand call on OPEC crude.

Al-Khalifa's suggestion, according to *MEES*, "would leave room to include Iraq with a quota at the same level as Iran plus a further volume of about one million b/d to be distributed proportionately among the 13 member countries."

Questioned about the danger of recurrence of last year's oil price collapse if next Wednesday's OPEC meeting in Vienna failed to reach a credible results, Al-Khalifa said every effort will be put to avert a return to the 1986 situation but said he could not exclude the possibility particularly in view of the discount given by some OPEC countries he did not name.

Al-Khalifa warned that no country could be expected to permit the loss of its long-term customers as a result of price discounting by other. "From a policy standpoint we will ensure that it does not happen regardless of the consequences," he said.

"If there is a case to be made for a higher quota, nobody has more justification than Kuwait," he pointed out but added that Kuwait will not press for a higher quota "except for whatever increase we may receive as a proportional entitlement in the normal course of events."

He spoke to *MEES* also about the difficult OPEC was having with non-OPEC producers in trying to stabilise the price of oil apparently not with much success.

The Kuwaiti minister told *MEES* he saw "no glimmer of hope for better cooperation from non-OPEC". He wished to be proved wrong on that but warned that non-OPEC producers "have to bear in mind that there is a limit to what OPEC can do: A limit that is determined not by its desire to perform but by its ability to perform."

PDRY

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Ba'th Delegation

Arrives for Talks

JN281847 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Aden—A Syrian party and government delegation headed by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, arrived in Aden this evening. The delegation includes Comrade 'Isam al- Qadi, member of the Ba'th Party National Command; Dr Ahmad Durgham, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; and Yasin Rajjuh, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

The delegation was received at Aden airport by Comrade Salim Salih Muhammad, YSP assistant secretary general and secretary of the Central Committee; Comrade Sa'id Salih Salim, member of the YSP Political Bureau and minister of state security; Comrade 'Abd al-Jalil Ghaylan, deputy secretary of the Central Committee; the comrade head of the office of the Arab homeland and foreign relations in the YSP; and representatives of the PNSF.

In a statement to the *Aden News Agency* upon his arrival in Aden, Comrade al-Ahmar said: We are visiting to participate in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the independence of the PDRY. We will also meet with brothers in the party and state leadership to exchange views on our common issues and our fraternal, bilateral state and party relations. He affirmed the importance of holding meetings between the brothers in the two countries. Al-Ahmar also indicated that Syria considers the PDRY a support for steadfast Syria in the struggle against the Zionist enemy, and also in its pan-Arab battle against imperialism and Zionism. In conclusion, Comrade al-Ahmar wished the PDRY and its fraternal people further progress and prosperity.

Al-Ahmar Received by Al-Bid

JN302054 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Aden—Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party, met with Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, this morning. Comrade al-Ahmar conveyed the greetings and good wishes of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Republic. This message was addressed to the fraternal Yemeni people and their leadership on the 20th anniverary of their independence. Comrade al-Bid asked Comrade al-Ahmar to convey similar greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad, in addition to his thanks to the Ba'th Party, Syria, and its leadership for its principled and constant stands on the causes of Arab struggle and its support for the PDRY.

During the meeting, the two sides held fraternal talks on bilateral relations. They also reviewed Arab developments, particularly the Arab-Zionist conflict, as well as issues of joint interest to the two parties and fraternal countries.

Earlier, Comrade al-Ahmar received delegations from Vietnam and Czechoslovakia. They discussed developed relations to benefit the common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

EA010047 Aden ANA in Arabic 1550 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Aden, 30 Nov—Official talks were held at the YSP Secretariat this afternoon between the YSP [delegation] headed by Comrade Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the Central Committee, and a delegation of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party, led by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, its assistant secretary general.

In their talks they reviewed militant relations between the two parties, countries, and brotherly peoples in the joint struggle to confront imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs. They also reviewed a number of Arab and international issues of common interest. [passage omitted]

Brother Comrades Salim Salih Muhammad and 'Abdallah al-Ahmar signed a protocol for party cooperation between the YSP and Socialist Arab Ba'th Party for 1988-89. The program includes cooperation in exchanging party experience, knowledge, and visits by delegations and coordination in party, mass, and governmental sectors. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Denies OPEC To Raise Prices

LD012346 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Dec (SPA)—Radio Tehran today broadcast a news conference by Iranian Minister of Petroleum Gholem Reza Aqazadeh in which he accused the Kingdom and other Gulf countries of creating a type of instability inside the oil market. Aqazadeh also claimed that these countries have caused the present instability in the oil market. Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has told SPA that the "price of petroleum on the international market does not rise or fall by a decision but is subject to the factors of supply and demand."

He added that there is no economic logic in demanding a price increase at a time when supply exceeds demand and when producers are undercutting the official prices.

He also added that Iran started to exceed its production quota last May and that it was offering reductions in other ways before that date. However, it is now offering these reductions constantly and openly. He added that "perhaps the real reason for Iran's attempt to avoid the signing of any agreement reached next December is its prior knowledge of its inability to adhere to the official price. Therefore, it wants to raise the price in a haphazard way to prevent other OPEC producers from marketing their oil at a time when it is giving discounts."

Nazir also stated that "it is illogical for Iran to impose its special problems on the remaining members of the organization."

He confirmed that the Kingdom would not be a party to any agreement that is not based on sound economic logic and that is not reached in an objective way.

Hisham Nazir ended his statement by saying that the "oil market knows the truth about Iran's practices, whether on the violation of quotas or the various discounts. Iranian practices are reported daily in the oil magazines."

Cabinet Adopts 'Decisive Stands' on Iran Acts

LD301612 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Nov (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, presided over a Cabinet meeting held this afternoon at Al-Yamamah Palace in Riyadh.

After the meeting, Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir told SPA that the Council of Ministers, under noble guidance, reviewed all the reports and information pertaining to the political, security, and economic events in the region. The Council was also informed of the series of fabrications, allegations, and false rumors spread by Iranian media against the Kingdom. The council discussed some of the ideas submitted to confront the false Khomeyniite propaganda and hostile practices at the Islamic and Arab levels, and adopted decisive stands regarding these.

Pakistan's Junejo Arrives on Official Visit
LD011125 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1055 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Dec (SPA)—Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo arrived in Riyadh at 1300 this afternoon on an official visit to the Kingdom.

His Excellency was met by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard. He was also welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; and His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of the Riyadh region.

YAR

Salih Cables PDRY Leaders on National Day
JN292041 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 87

["Text" of cable from President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee; and "brother members" of the Political Bureau on the PDRY national day; date not given]

[Text] Brother Eng Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidum; Brother 'Ali Salimal-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee; and brother members of Political Bureau:

On the occasion of the Yemeni people's celebrations on the dear anniversary of the independence of the southern part of our homeland, which was achieved after a violent struggle and heavy sacrifices—thanks to the solid national will and strong resolve that created the 26 September and 14 October Revolutions—I am pleased to send to you and to our brothers in the southern part of our homeland the warmest congratulations and most heartfelt wishes. I pray to Almighty God to have mercy on our people's martyrs who sacrificed their souls for the revolution and for the sake of providing a dignified and honorable life for our people and making our homeland strong, independent, and unified. I also pray to Almighty God to inspire and strengthen us in the work of expediting the achievements of the unity of our people and land, to firmly and strongly confront all advocates of division, and to bring about further progress, strength, and glory for our homeland under a strong, unified Yemen.

I wish you continued health and our people strength and progress.

[Signed] Your Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress

President Addresses Martyrs' Families 1 Dec

JN011620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Bagdhad, 1 Dec (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has said that we are dutybound to underline the values for which our martyrs have died and to affirm that Iraq will remain guarded by its people and the determination of its zealous sons. In an address at a ceremony today to decorate martyrs' families with the Valor Medal, the Al-Rafidayn Medal, and the Martyr Badge, his excellency said: The martyrs' blood was not shed in defense of great Iraq only, although it deserves this, but it is the ransom that has preserved Arab land and dignity from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arab Gulf. The president noted that the best way to respect the martyrs is to sympathize with their sons by directing them, educating them, and helping them walk on the road toward building themselves corrrectly.

His excellency said that the correct way to build the character of martys' sons is to support them inside their families. He added that this does not mean spoiling them; that is, overlooking their wrong behavior. When one of them makes a mistake, we must direct him and treat him as if his father were still among us. The martyr is in fact present with us, inside the family, the society, and everywhere. The president talked about spoiled sons. He said: Such sons will be weak in society because there is a difference between care and coddling. His excellency affirmed the need to care for the martyrs' sons and straighten them out when they make a mistake. More than anyone else they need us to guide them and to show them what is wrong.

The president said that among the ways we highlight our faithfulness to the principles for which the martyrs died is to preserve the objective for which they died. The martyrs realized full well that Iraq must not become a lackey to Khomeyni; Iraq must remain, and its territory must remain, pure and undesecrated by occupation. His excellency noted that the entire world now realizes that Khomeyni and his regime are aggressors. It also realizes that the Khomeyni regime is aggressive not only against Iraq, but against all regional states. The president stressed that the Iraqis are fully aware, wise, and capable of protecting their country and extinguishing the fire from the east—the fire that could have burned every corner of the Arab homeland.

The ceremony was attended by Staff General 'Adnan Khyarallah, deputy commander in chief and defense minister; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; and Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs.

President Visits Martyr Monument, Basra Front

JN011849 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1738 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA)—President Saddam Husayn visited the martyr's monument on the occasion of martyr's day early this morning. His excellency said a prayer for the souls of our martyrs who have sacrificed their pure blood defending our dear homeland's soil and our Arab nation's dignity and loftiness. The president asked God to bestow His mercy on our martyrs, to make paradise their home, and to achieve victory for our heroes over the rancorous Iranian enemy.

President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, then left for the war fronts. His excellency inspected the sectors of the III, IV, and VI Army Corps. During his meetings with the commanders of these corps and their staff officers, his excellency was reassured about the ongoing preparations and arrangements to bury any desperate attempt by the criminal Iranian enemy. He was also reassured about the high morale of our valiant fighters who are defending this homeland's dignity and pride. His excellency also inspected one of the helicopter gunship squadrons in the IV Army Corps sector. He met with a number of the heroic fighters of the squadron.

President Saddam Husayn then visited the city of all cities, Basra. He toured the city and visited a number of families. During this visit, his excellency acquainted himself with the living conditions and the high morale enjoyed by the citizens of Basra despite the Iranian enemy shelling of its residential areas. The president greeted the citizens of steadfast Basra, who came out to receive his excellency and to renew the pledge to sacrifice their blood generously to defend our dear soil from the filth of Tehran's rulers and their Zionist supporters.

At the conclusion of his visit to Basra, the president was seen off by Comrade Mizban Khadir Hadi, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and secretary of the Party southern office for organization, and Anwar Sa'id, Basra governor.

President Saddam Husayn shared with the Iraqis their observance of silence at 0800 today, which lasted 5 minutes, on his way to inspect the war fronts to commemorate the righteous martyrs of Saddam's glorious Al-Qadisiyhah battle.

Foreign Minister Reiterates Commitment to 598

PM021029 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 28 Nov 87 pp 14, 15

[Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid report on statements by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In reply to a question by *Al-Tadamun* regarding why Tariq 'Aziz had postponed his visit to New York and whether this was in response to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: "All that happened was that Mr Perez de Cuellar sent a message to both President Saddam Husayn and the Iranian president asking each to send a representative to continue talks on the application of Resolution 598. We told the secretary general that the foreign minister would represent Iraq. I personally told him that I was ready to travel after the Amman Arab summit. I am still awaiting the secretary general's notification of a time he thinks suitable to hold such talks, after which I can leave. Our understanding of the secretary general's invitation was to hold talks with both countries' representatives. We set no conditions about the method of holding talks with him. This was what we understood from his invitation. Nor did he lead us to understand differently."

Commenting on the Iranian military escalation at the front, Tariq 'Aziz stated: "The Iranian regime is at present loudly beating the drum of war and aggression. In my opinion, this is the deep dilemma facing the Iranian regime after the failure of its aggressive military program over more than 7 years. It is the result of the state of siege it suffered from international pressure to implement Resolution 598, as well as the strong blow the regime received from the Amman Arab summit. The regime is trying to extricate itself from this dilemma through aggressive acts, including the attack carried out against the middle sector, which the Iraqis aborted on 17 November 1987. Praise be to God, this aggression was replied to both swiftly and efficiently. This has reflected the Iraqi Armed Forces' capability and readiness to repulse any aggression of any form or scale that the Iranian regime is thinking of launching."

In reply to a question by *Al-Tadamun* about efforts now being made to implement the Security Council resolution, in terms of whether they are aimed at redrafting Resolution 598 or organizing its clauses, Tariq 'Aziz said: "We cannot allow Resolution 598 to be tampered with. This resolution was issued as it is and the international community, the Security Council in particular, must strive to implement it as it is. There are, of course, known Iranian attempts to tamper with the resolution, to interpret it tendentiously, contradict its essence, and tamper with the sequence of its clauses. We are resisting these attempts both legally and logically on the basis of the resolution itself, as well as its essence and the objectives sought by the Security Council when it was first adopted."

Regarding another question by *Al-Tadamun* about the relationship with Syria and its future prospects after the Amman summit, the Iraqi foreign minister said: "What happened at the Amman summit was that the Syrian delegation did not object to the resolution adopted by the summit on Iranian aggression against Iraq, as well as Iranian aggression against Kuwait and the Arab Gulf states. This was a new position, which we considered positive. We should wait and see what the Syrian position will produce during the next stage. President Saddam Husayn said at the Amman summit that Iraq, proceeding from its deep feelings of pan-Arab responsibility, is ready to respond to any positive step by any party regardless of our opinion of that party and its previous stands. Iraq is ready to deal positively with any development in any Arab state's position—any development that would be in line with the obligations of that state under the Arab League Charter and the joint Arab defense pact."

As for the possibility of moving to the second part of Resolution 598, 'Aziz noted: "The second part of the resolution, namely, sanctions against Iran, should have been swiftly applied, since it was clear that the Iranian position in essence rejected the resolution. But there are some parties in the Security Council who are are in no hurry to reach the proper conclusion. They are providing unconvincing justification for their position. The Security Council must reach a proper conclusion soon."

'General Amnesty' Granted to Expatriates

JN011512 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (WAKH)—Iraq today decided to issue a general amnesty to all Iraqis residing abroad who are wanted for investigation or those on whom various sentences have been passed if they are invited to the annual Al-Mirbad Poetry Festival. In the name of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim informed the participants in the final session of the Al-Mirbad Poetry Festival of this decision.

Jasim noted that the amnesty will also cover those who were sentenced to death so that Iraqis will be given an opportunity to return to the homeland. He said this amnesty will be called the Al-Mirbad Festival Amnesty. The participants in the festival held their final session at the martyr's monument hall on the occasion of martyr's day.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations

Iranian Losses Detailed

JN011443 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA)—Iraq's rulers shelled residential areas in Basrah, Khanaqin, and Badrah with long-range artillery last night and today. As a result, several civilian houses were damaged. An Iraqi military spokesman today said Iraqi helicopter gunships carried out 19 raids on Iranian assembly points and weapons emplacements in the northern and southern sectors of the front.

The Iraqi spokesman said the Iranian forces' losses are as follows: 10 personnel killed and 5 observation posts and 6 infantry positions destroyed. The spokesman added that one Iranian tank was destroyed, one large vehicle was burnt and destroyed, and another vehicle was damaged in the northern sector. The spokesman noted that in the east of Tigris sector, one mortar and one ammunition dump were destroyed. In the VII Army Corps sector in southern Iraq, three large vehicles were destroyed.

Communique No 2,936

JN011739 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Communique No 2,936 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 December]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Today, the brave helicopter knights flew 25 combat sorties in which they inflicted new losses on enemy personnel, weapons, and equipment. They then returned safely with their planes in God's care.

2. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector inflicted on the aggressors the following losses: two scoundrels killed; one tank damaged; one large vehicle burned and destroyed and another damaged; one observation post destroyed; and one ammunition dump blown up.

3. In the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces—one infantry position and one machinegun were destroyed and their crews were killed.

4. In the II Army Corps central sector, three enemy personnel were killed, two observation posts were destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up.

5. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah sector, four enemy personnel were killed and two infantry positions were destroyed.

6. In the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, one enemy scoundrel was killed and two observation posts were destroyed.

7. In the V Army Corps northern sector, one vehicle was burned and destroyed and its occupants killed.

8. In ther VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, one mortar and one infantry position were destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up.

9. In the VII Army Corps sector, three large vehicles and two infantry positions were destroyed.

10. The despotic clique shelled residential areas in Basra, Khanaqin, and Badrah with long-range artillery last night and today. As a result, a number of civilian houses and property were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 December 1987

Egyptian Comments on 'Routine' Border Incident

TA011414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Excerpts] An IDF soldier received slight arm injuries early this morning from fire opened from Egyptian territory at an IDF patrol near the security fence north of Rafah. [passage omitted]

The Egyptian Embassy spokesman in Tel Aviv has told our correspondent Aharon Barne'a that this was a routine incident of infiltration, which sometimes occurs on a border between countries.

'Abd al-Majid Remarks

TA011525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid says that the incident that took place early this morning on the border near Rafah has no significance. He told the Visnews television agency that such an incident can occur at any time but it will have no influence on relations between Egypt and Israel.

Peres Briefs Knesset

TA021146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said that Israel views Egypt as the one responsible for the shooting incident on the Egyptian-Israeli border yesterday, but that Israel's impression is that Cairo is treating the incident with the appropriate gravity. In his opinion, Egypt intends to learn a lesson from the incident.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that the foreign minister answered several motions to the Knesset agenda on the opening of PLO offices in Cairo and the attacks on Israel published by Egyptian papers.

Mr Peres said that whoever believes that direct negotiations can immediately be started with our neighbors ignores the fact that this has been tried in vain for many years, even before the national unity government was established. Minister Peres again called for a decision on whether or not to go for an international conference.

Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Knesset Member Mikha'el Eytan, who initiated the query on the subject, was sent out of the Knesset plenary hall after he interrupted the foreign minister's speech, charging that Peres was ignoring the worsening Egyptian stance.

Peres Comments on Shooting

TA021154 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1030 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says that Egypt did not instruct its representatives around the world not to invite Israeli diplomats to formal and social occasions, nor did the Egyptian Government decide to restrict the traffic of goods between the two countries. [passage omitted]

The following is an excerpt from Shim'on Peres' remarks before the Knesset plenum:

[Begin recording] To the best of my knowledge, there is no foundation to the report that the Egyptian Government has instructed its representatives around the world not to invite Israeli diplomats to formal and social occasions. Likewise, there is no truth to the report that the Egyptian Government has decided, as it were, to impose restrictions on the passage of goods between Israel and Egypt. We have found no trace of that in practice. Also, I rechecked this matter with the Egyptian Embassy this morning and heard a denial from it as well. [end recording]

Further Peres Remarks

TA021342 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Peres says that Egypt is taking a grave view of the incident in Rafah during which an IDF soldier was shot. This transpires from reports which have reached the Foreign Ministry. Minister Peres replied to four motions to the Knesset agenda which dealt with Israeli-Egyptian relations. Our correspondent in the Knesset Hayim Zissowitz reports:

[Begin recording] [Zissowitz] The matter of peace with Egypt was raised on the Knesset agenda even before the incident in Rafah, in the wake of reports on the opening of PLO offices in Cairo. In answering the motions the foreign minister, however, addressed himself also to the Rafah incident.

[Peres] This morning I heard a report from the defense minister and from IDF leaders. Egypt took a grave view of the incident, as it is required to do. It is cooperating with us. It is checking what happened, as well as the lessons which should be drawn from it. When hand grenades are thrown in Rafah, Egypt is responsible. We will demand Egypt accept this responsibility. The only question here is whether it did that or not, and the answer, to the best of my knowledge, is no. Does Egypt take this lightly? To the best of my knowledge, no. Does Israel take a grave view of this? To the best of my knowledge, yes.

[Zissowitz] [passage omitted] Although Foreign Minister Peres is not happy about these occurrences in Egypt, he believes that, all in all, Egypt has maintained its major commitments according to the peace treaty.

[Peres] It is a fact that for 10 years there have been no army concentrations, the arms race has declined a little, and there were no casualties on the Israeli-Egyptian border.

[Zissowitz] With the foreign minister's consent all motions were transferred to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. [end recording]

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Editorial

TA021430 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 2 Dec 87 p 1

[Editorial: "An Incident in the South"]

[Text] After the disaster in the north, all we needed was an incident in the south. There is, of course, no comparison between the lack of alert that resulted in the tragedy in the north, and the proper conduct of the unit in the south which discovered the hole in the defense fence and prevented an infiltration attempt.

Yet this incident, which contrary to reports is not the first of its kind in the south, proves that the terrorists lurk even behind the peaceful border with Egypt. In this context, it is impossible to ignore the fact that only a week ago Egypt permitted the PLO to reopen its office in Cairo.

For some odd reason, the Egyptian ambassador termed the incident "a routine event." It should be pointed out, however, that this kind of routine is insufferable and that the authorities in his country must do everything in their power to prevent the recurrence of similar events in the future.

Egyptian Tabah Delegation Arrives for Talks

TA011407 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 1 Dec 87 p 11

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] The first official Egyptian delegation to arrive here since that country's renewal of relations with the Arab world landed at Ben-Gurion Airport at about midnight last night.

General Faruq Labib, the head of the Egyptian liaison unit, has met with his Israeli counterpart, Brigadier General Oren Shahor. The military delegation is also accompanied by Hasan 'Isa, a member of the Foreign Ministry staff who is well known here, formerly Egyptian consul in Elat, and currently deputy director of the Israel Department in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

The delegation's discussions will revolve around the topics of arbitration over Tabah, the prevention of infiltration, the smuggling of goods and drugs into the Sinai, and routine security along the common border fence. The Israeli delegation will also raise two "civilian" issues in the deliberations, which are to continue for 3 days in the Daniyel Hotel, Herzliyya: compensation for the families of those involved in the Ra's al-Burqa' murder; and the attacks and inflammatory articles published recently in the official and opposition press in Egypt.

The members of the Egyptian delegation are scheduled to go to the Tabah region with their Israeli counterparts to try to settle differences on the spot over which conflicting opinion occurred while the maps were being studied and those that involve the delineation of the border line. The Egyptians expect that the final judgment on Tabah's future will be determined close to spring.

Syria's Return to Terrorist Practices Noted

JN302034 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 30 Nov 87

["Observation" program by Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listerners: During the past year and since its effective involvement in international terrorism has been confirmed, Syria has been trying to remove the black blemish of terrorism, which was stamped on its forehead. It has tried by all means to beautify its image in the eyes of world public opinion.

This is designed to mend its relations with the West, particularly the United States. Syria has succeeded in achieving this very goal to a great extent. But there has been wariness in the West, the United States, and Israel about being deceived by the mirage of Damascus' rulers. It has been concluded that Al-Asad's Syria is still far from removing the blemish of terrorism, which is stamped on its forehead. Its participation in the release of some hostages in Lebanon, its shouting that it is innocent, or pretending to be innocent do not constitute proof that it sincerely and irrevocably regrets playing the role of godfather and broker in the world of international terrorism.

The terrorist operation perpetrated last week by members of Ahmad Jibril's organziation, who infiltrated into Israel by gliders, unveiled Damascus' rulers. It is known that Al-Asad's Syria supports and embraces this organization. Members of this organization receive military training— including the use of gliders—on military bases near Damascus. Moreover, one of the terrorists who participated in the operation and died in action is a Syrian national.

If parts of the torn veil remained on Damascus' rulers, the Syrian media tore them off thoroughly by rejoicing in and applauding this terrorist operation. At any rate, the terrorist operation proved the doubters right, those who were doubtful about whether Damascus' rulers would sincerely and irrevocably give up supporting and embracing the world terrorist organizations and completely give up practicing the role of godfather and broker of international terrorism. This operation also proved that the Ba'thists have returned to their ugly old practices.

Arms Deal Signed With FRG During Rabin Visit

TA011955 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] A large arms deal was signed last month between Israel and the FRG involving the export of $0.25 billion worth of security related equipment from Israel to the arms industries in Germany. This has been learned by our correspondent in Bonn, Yisra'el Segal. The deal was signed during Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's recent visit to Germany and was approved by the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee of the Bundestag. Our correspondent has been told that the arms deal will guarantee employment for thousands of workers in the Israeli security industries and is saving the Soltam factory from closure.

Soltam Director Denies Deal

TA021224 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] El'azar Baraq, the director general of the Soltam plant, denies that a large deal has been signed for the supply of artillery ammunition to the FRG. Responding to media reports this morning, the Soltam director general says: Although we would have been very happy to receive orders of the scope reported, I am sorry to announce that this is not the case. Soltam did not sign any deal of the reported size, nor do we know of a deal of any size that the Soltam plant might have.

Greek Foreign Minister Continues Visit, Talks

Consults With Shamir

NC011920 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
1800 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Report by Andonios Kokorikos, Athens radio correspondent in Israel]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias continued his consultations in Jerusalem today. He conferred with Prime minister Yitzhaq Shamir for about 1 hour. During the meeting, at which the atmosphere was friendly, they examined bilateral relations and political developments in the Middle East, as well as the ongoing peace efforts. Papoulias also met with President Hayim Herzog and with a committee of relatives of missing Israeli soldiers.

During his meeting with Shamir, Papoulias outlined Greek positions, which are in line with EC policies, stressing the need for an international conference on the Middle East issue. Shamir insisted on his view that an international conference would not be an effective process, because it would involve prejudiced forces. It is well known that there is a disagreement between Shamir and Peres, who lead the two largest parties in the country, on the matter of an international conference. Peres accepts it on certain conditions, while Shamir rejects it.

According to a representative of the Israeli prime minister, after the meeting with Papoulias, Shamir said, among other things, that Greece is very well thought of in Irsael. We admire your struggle for independence, he stated, and I am happy to hear from you that your government will re-examine the level of relations with Israel, as well as the matter of representation at the ambassadorial level.

We understand, Shamir added, that you traditionally have friendly relations with the Arab states and, as a result, Greece could play a role in political developments in the Middle East if it were to maintain similar relations with Israel. Perhaps it could persuade the Arab countries to change their relations with Israel, and to agree to the commencement of peace negotiations.

Shamir added that at this moment there is no apparent desire for peace on the part of the Arab countries. He referred to the armed attack which occurred a few days ago. The Israeli prime minister suggested to Papoulias that Greece should explain to the Arabs that they will achieve nothing by force, and that results can only be attained through negotiations. He also asked Papoulias to pass on his invitation to Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to visit Israel, and expressed his desire for improved economic relations between Greece and Israel.

The Israeli prime minister's representative also announced that during his meeting with Shamir, Papoulias voiced the hope that his visit would open a new chapter in Greek-Israeli relations and that he agrees with Shamir that Greece should offer de jure recognition to Israel.

Greek sources denied this part of the statement. They stressed that Papoulias reiterated the well-known position that the Greek Government is examining the question of the diplomatic recognition of Israel and that it will make a decision in due course.

This afternoon Papoulias visited the Jerusalem patriarchate and conferred with Patriarch Dhiodhoros. During the meeting the patriarch said he was very happy to meet the Greek foreign minister. [passage omitted]

This evening Papoulias also met with Avraham Sharir, minister of justice and tourism.

Discusses MIA's in Lebanon

TA011819 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Greece raised the issue of the Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon twice with Syrian President al-Asad. This was disclosed less than an hour ago by Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, who was meeting with representatives of the missing soldiers' families. The Greek minister promised the families to continue to work for the missing sons and expressed the hope that a solution would be found. It is no secret, Papoulias said, that the Greek Government is interested in the return of the missing soldiers. Our correspondent Gil'at Levi reports that representatives of the families spent 30 minutes speaking with the visiting minister.

AL-NAHAR Editorial on Visit

TA011801 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 30 Nov 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Why Don't We Learn a Lesson From Madrid and Athens?"]

[Text] The Greek foreign minister is paying a visit to Israel today against the background of Greek-Israeli relations which during the past 40 years have sometimes been characterized by tension and at others by slackness.

The Greek foreign minister's visit to Israel reminds us of the Spanish Government's decision 2 years ago to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. Both events remind us of what we must learn by heart; namely, that international relations are based not on absolute admiration or permanent hatred but on mutual interests.

Greece, a member of the EEC, is greatly interested in creating a balance between its political position on the Middle East crisis and its economic revival, represented in the marketing of its products in EEC member countries that maintain normal relations with Israel.

We predict that during his current visit to Israel the Greek minister will make traditional political statements signifying support for the Arab position and for legitimate Palestinian rights. But we would like to caution that one should not take these statements with real seriousness because these days Athens is more concerned with boosting its economy, improving its balance of payments, and burnishing its nonaligned image than with adhering to the contents of rosy and friendly statements.

We reiterate that the resumption of Spanish-Israeli relations and the visit by the Greek minister to Israel, which is a prelude to the establishment of full diplomatic relations between Athens and Tel Aviv, should constitute a lesson for Arab politics in general and Palestinian political action in particular—a lesson from which the conclusion to be drawn is that interests are stronger than feelings and that economic benefits come ahead of principles and values.

Why do we not learn this lesson of international relations? And why should we not act according to the conclusions of this lesson? That way we will be saving ourselves a great deal of astonishment, amazement, and disappointment.

Finland Offers Shahal Soviet Oil Surpluses

TA291900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Finland has offered Israel oil surpluses whose origin is the Soviet Union. Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports that the Finnish energy and industry minister raised the proposal with his Israeli counterpart, Moshe Shahal, who is currently visiting Scandinavia. Finland has a trade balance agreement with the Soviet Union. It received large amounts of crude oil last year and it accumulated surpluses due to the drop in oil prices. Minister Shahal said he would relay the proposal to Israeli fuel companies for their professional examination of it.

PLO Participating in Talks on Exports to EEC

TA301954 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Nov 87 p 15

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari and Yosef Galili]

[Text] Within the framework of Israel's talks with the EEC on agricultural exports from the territories to Europe, tripartite negotiations are developing, with the PLO participating in the contacts as well.

EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson met recently with a Palestinian delegation, which included the head of the PLO's economic department, the head of the PLO's European department, and the head of the PLO office in Brussels. They were told of the difficulties in the negotiations with Israel on permitting direct agricultural exports to the EEC. It may be assumed that Cheysson asked for their agreement to Israel's conditions that the exports be marketed through AGREXCO. The PLO's position on this is not clear.

Our correspondent adds that the UN organization which aides Third World countries, UNDP, also coordinated with the PLO the agreements it reached with Israel on the subject of aid to the territories.

"It is inconceivable that the minutes of the agreement between the EEC and Israel, signed 12 months ago, have not been ratified," said Italian Agriculture Minister Filippo Pandolfi. The remark was made at a press conference held yesterday in the Israeli agriculture minister's office at the end of a joint working session devoted to concluding the common positions of the two countries.

The Italian minister added that the problem of agricultural exports by Arabs from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza should be solved and that he supports the Israeli position. Should it be necessary, he said, he would personally exert pressure on the EEC commissioner for agriculture and instruct the Italian ambassador in Brussels to support the Israeli position in the forthcoming meeting of the EEC Council of Ministers. According to the Israeli position, the problem of exports from the West Bank and Gaza Strip should not be linked to a political stand since the problem is of a marketing and not political nature.

Criticism of F-16 Purchase Seen Unwarranted

TA301336 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
30 Nov 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] "If a deal is signed for the purchase of 75 F-16's for $2 billion, it will be some $800 million cheaper than the previous deal and we fail to understand why Israel should feel disappointed about it," security sources said yesterday. These sources were reacting to a report stating that pro-Israeli circles in the U.S. Administration claim that the United States is violating "the Lavi promises."

According to the report, a $2-billion deal would be signed for 75 aircraft, or some $27 million per plane. Defense Ministry officials point out that the previous agreement was for $2.8 billion. Consequently, if this is the final cost of the purchase, this would not be a disappointment but rather a great achievement.

The sources noted that it is not true that each aircraft in the new deal would cost $27 million. Although $2 billion divided into 75 aircraft gives the figure 27, the sum total also includes all the supplementary accessories which must be included in this type of purchase.

"A good atmosphere prevailed in the talks held in the United States some 10 days ago and the administration reiterated that it would uphold all its commitments. It even said as much in a written message addressed to David 'Ivri, the head of the Israeli delegation. It is a pity that there are some people who spread false information and harm the good atmosphere reached in Washington," the sources remarked.

Muslims To Be Allowed 'Mini' Mecca Pilgrimage

TA292157 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Israel will for the first time allow its Muslim citizens to take part in a Muslim mini-pilgrimage called 'umra [minor hajj]. This pilgrimage is designated for Muslims who find it difficult to leave for the massive hajj to Mecca at its regular annual date. Our correspondent Steve Rodan reports that Religious Affairs Minister Zvulun Hammer announced this in a meeting with Muslim notables. Jordan and Saudi Arabia, the two countries through which the pilgrims will move, have given their consent. The first group will set out on this pilgrimage in March 1988 and will include only Muslims whose age is 40 and above.

'Turkish' Vessel Reportedly Released

TA301930 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
30 Nov 87 p A2

[Excerpt] The "Palestinian vessel" that the Egyptian president asked Israel to release has already been freed together with its five crew members. The Egyptian president had appealed to Israel to release the vessel, which was captured by the Navy last week.

A "Turkish vessel" with its crew of four Turks and one Syrian, a 15-year-old minor, was captured at that time.

It was learned yesterday that following legal consultations no cause was found to continue holding the vessel and its crew, and certainly not to put them on trial. Therefore, an instruction was given to release them.

The interception point between the Israeli vessel and the "Turkish vessel" did not justify keeping the vessel in Israel for trial. [passage omitted]

SLA Soldier Killed by 'Terrorists' 1 Dec

TA011203 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1130 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] A South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldier was killed and another slightly wounded this morning by terrorists' fire in the central sector of the security zone. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the SLA soldiers returned the fire.

Jerusalem Court Rejects Vanunu Acquittal Appeal

TA011829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] A Jerusalem District Court has rejected the appeal by accused nuclear spy Mordekhay Vanunu that he should be immediately acquitted. The two court judges ruled that Vanunu will have to respond to all the espionage charges against him.

Eytan Granted One-Man Knesset Faction Status

TA301029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The Knesset House Committee has granted the status of one-man faction to Knesset Member [MK] Refa'el Eytan, who resigned from the Tehiya. The only committee member to abstain from this morning's voting was MK Gershon Shafat of the Tehiya. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that as a one-man faction, MK Refa'el Eytan will be entitled to a budgetary allocation like all other factions.

Kahane To Be Charged With Racist Incitement

TA301241 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1130 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The Attorney General has decided to press charges against KAKH and Knesset Member [MK] Meir Kahane for racist incitement. The charges will be pressed at the request of MK Amnon Rubinstein who argues that Kahane uses the Knesset's services to send hate mail to Arab citizens.

Rafah Resident Under Administrative Detention

TA011049 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the commander of the Southern Command, has issued an administrative detention order against Nazir Khalil Luka of Rafah. This has been reported by our correspondent Arye Gus. The order will be in effect for 6 months. It was issued in view of the fact that Luka is suspected of having distributed pamphlets and of having been involved in agitation and disturbances.

Balatah Residents Detained

TA011330 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1230 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Five Balatah refugee camp residents were put under a 6-month administrative detention order last night. All six [as heard] are suspected of stone throwing, tire burning and attempting to interfere with civilian movement in the Balatah refugee camp.

Letter Bomb Sent to British Envoy in Beirut

*NC012017 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has exclusive information that British Ambassador John Grey escaped an attempt to assassinate him by letter bomb at his home in Al-Naqqash this evening. Our security correspondent says that while checking the embassy's incoming mail, one of the ambassador's aides became suspicious of an envelope apparently containing a greetings card from the New Zealand Embassy and marked: Private and personal for Ambassador Grey. The report adds that the letter measured 20 cm by 20 cm.

An explosives expert was summoned to Ambassador Grey's residence. He examined the letter which was found to be rigged with a highly explosive material weighing between 30 and 35 grams, equivalent to 3 kg of TNT. The explosives expert, Sergeant Ilyas al-Haddad, took the letter bomb to the Internal Security Forces Directorate General to defuse or detonate it. It was learned that the object found inside the envelope measured 8 cm by 4 cm.

The report says that the letter bomb was brought to Ambassador Grey's home in Al-Naqqash between 1600 and 1630 today by someone in a new Mercedes-280 that bore diplomatic license plates. British Embassy staff immediately questioned the guards who received the letter in order to obtain a description of the car and its driver.

A short time ago, a British Embassy spokesman confirmed the report that the Voice of Lebanon broadcast in a special news bulletin at 2000 tonight. Recounting the incident, he said that a letter bomb was delivered this evening to a guard at a checkpoint leading to the ambassador's residence, who in turn handed it to the embassy's security personnel. One of them became suspicious, he added, and internal security forces were immediately contacted and requested to dispatch an explosives expert to examine the letter.

Envoy Said Out of Country

*NC012048 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A spokesman for the British Embassy has stated that Ambassador Grey and his wife have been out of Lebanohn for 3 days now.

No Explosives Found

*NC020700 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 2 Dec 87*

[Text] It was announced last night that the suspect letter delivered to the residence of British Ambassador John Grey did not contain explosive material.

Al-Huss Sends Messages to Gorbachev, Reagan

*NC021224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 2 Dec 87*

[Text] In view of the summit meeting due to be held on 7 December between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has sent messages to the two leaders. In them, Al-Huss referred to the Israeli occupation and the way in which it reflects on the conditions in Lebanon. Al-Huss urged the two superpowers to press Israel to implement the UN resolutions which call for unconditional Israeli withdrawal. The two messages were handed to the U.S. and USSR ambassadors in Lebanon, John Kelly and Vasiliy Kolotusha.

Reconciliation Issue Ruled Out on Summit Agenda

*NC301533 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1445 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] After meeting with acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, Soviet Ambassador Vasiliy Kolotusha ruled out the possibility that the subject of reconciliation among the Lebanese will be discussed at the upcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit. Kolotusha denied any knowledge that Moscow had advised the Lebanese to convince Washington to raise the Lebanese issue at the superpowers summit.

President al-Jumayyil Returns From Paris 1 Dec

*NC010704 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0545 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut via Larnaca at 0730 today, after spending 36 hours in Paris.

FRG Ambassador on Relations, Aid Granted

*NC301805 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] FRG Ambassador to Lebanon (Wolfgang Gotterman) has announced that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to the FRG greatly contributed to the consolidation of bilateral relations. He said that his country will do all it can in Lebanon and abroad to help achieve peace and reconciliation and will raise the Lebanese issue at the meeting of the heads of European Common Market states in Copenhagen next month.

The FRG ambassador indicated that his country will give Lebanon immediate economic aid amounting to DM10 million, equivalent to 3 billion Lebanese pounds, to purchase needed commodities. He said it will be left to Lebanon to decide how to spend this aid. The FRG has also presented DM1 million for urgently needed medicines.

In an interview on Lebanese Television Channel 5, which will be broadcast at 2030 today, (Gotterman) noted that joint committees will be formed to discuss the details of German-Lebanese cooperation, especially to define projects to be financed under a DM60-million grant allotted by the FRG.

Israel Reportedly To Supply Lahd With Vessels
NC291744 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Dawud Dawud, chairman of the Amal Movement's Executive Committee, has received information from resistance fighters in the occupied border strip to the effect that Israel will supply the agent Lahd army with speedboats of the Al-Dabbur type in preparation to building a Lahd naval force.

Dawud Dawud said that some 20 Lahd agents are undergoing a training course on the use of these boats.

120 Lebanese Depart for Libya To Fight Chad
NC281752 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] An AFP correspondent in Shtawrah has reported that 120 Lebanese have left the Al-Biqa' plain for Libya to fight on the side of the Libyan forces against the Chadian Army. It should be recalled that approximately 700 PSP members and 100 from the Lebanese Communist Party left for Libya in September.

Syrians Kidnap 2 Internal Security Corporals
NC011615 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Syrian intelligence personnel in West Beirut have kidnapped two Internal Security Forces corporals, Khidr Mahdi from the Emergency Company and Mahdi Mahdi from the Support Company, from their homes on Al-Hamad Street in Al-Tariq al-Jadidah.

In another development, reports from Bsharri say a device has exploded under a Mercedes automobile belonging to Albert Rahmah, causing only material damage.

Bomb Discovered Under Deputy Michel Sasin's Car
NC020707 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] An explosive device was discovered in the Sasin locality in Al-Ashrafiyah [in East Beirut] this morning. The device was placed in front of a tire of one of the cars belonging to Deputy Michel Sasin.

Al-Jumayyil Visits Security Directorate
NC011451 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has emphasized that the process of liberating Lebanon, restoring its sovereignty, and consolidating its independence will continue whatever the sacrifices. He indicated that the Lebanese people yearn to see security entrusted to their legitimate security forces, because only the official security forces can protect the citizens and there can be no security, peace, or stability without them.

This came in a speech President al-Jumayyil delivered to the Internal Security Forces during a surprise visit to the Internal Security Forces Directorate General in Hotel Dieu shortly after his return to Beirut from Paris. He offered his condolences on the nine members of the security forces who were martyred in the treacherous shelling of the Internal Security Forces Institute in Al-Warwar last Saturday.

During his visit, President al-Jumayyil expressed solidarity with the Internal Security Forces in their tragedy.

Sa'adah Addresses Party Anniversary Rally
NC291649 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah has affirmed that the Phalangist Party is one of reconciliation and unity of all Lebanese. It is the party of rational, calm dialogue. It is open to others and coexists, befriends, and cooperates with others in resolving the issues of the current crisis and the future.

Dr Sa'adah pledged that the Phalangists are loyal to their slogan: In service of Lebanon and its historic course. It is a Lebanese party that neither cedes an ideology or a principle nor deviates from a position or principle. The Phalangist Party, Dr Sa'adah added, conducts dialogue, resists, and endeavors to end the ordeal and to construct a reconciliatory Lebanon.

This came in a speech which Dr Sa'adah delivered at a rally in Casino Lubnan in Al-Ma'amiltayn on the occasion of the 51st anniversary of the establishment of the Phalangist Party. [passage omitted]

Sa'adah reiterated the components of an independent national decision, which simply means no submission to or reliance on anyone, or the reconsideration of Lebanon as a free and sovereign entity. Dr Sa'adah affirmed the need to work to liberate the land from all the occupation armies and the transient resident revolutions. He pointed out that the Phalangist Party's primary objective is the liberation of the land because this would liberate the willpower of the Lebanese. Liberation is an Arab and international responsibility.

Dr Sa'adah affirmed that the Phalangist Party wants to hold a dialogue with everyone and reach understanding with regard to a president who can face up to the challenges and who comes from Lebanon and serves all the Lebanese. He asserted his commitment to the constitutional and legitimate establishments and his support for President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's national stands and moves for the sake of the Lebanese cause. He noted that the Phalangists are on his side and represent the shield for the presidency and state and the mainstay for the state's establishments.

Dr Sa'adah added that the Army belongs to everyone and reiterated the party's support for its splendid steadfastness. We also support the state. We are neither above the state nor against it. Dr Sa'adah affirmed that all Lebanese should resort to dialogue and agree on organizing a just and lasting coexistence which can guarantee Lebanon's internal unity.

Dr Sa'adah continued by reiterating Lebanon's neutrality, which is acceptable on Lebanese, Arab and international levels. He also affirmed that Lebanon is an Arab state committed to the Arab League and UN Charter, and which shuns all kinds of religious and denominational racism which only leads to partition and division. [passage omitted]

Birri Reveals Muslim Candidate for President

NC301527 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has revealed an important aspect of Syria's conspiratorial plan by declaring that the Muslims will nominate a candidate for the presidency if no reconciliation is achieved before the next presidential elections.

Minister Birri reiterated that the present government will remain in office as long as Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil continues as president. He said that whoever wants to get rid of the government should persuade the president to expedite his departure from office.

Parliament Extends Term of Office Until 1990

NC011553 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Parliament today approved a bill extending its term of office until 1990. Parliament was originally elected in 1972 and has repeatedly extended its term of office in view of the inability of the authorities to hold parliamentary elections due to civil strife.

Parliamentary action came at a full meeting of parliament chaired by Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and attended by 39 members of parliament. The government was represented by acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Ministers 'Adil 'Usayran, 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Joseph al-Hashim, and Victor Qasir. [passage omitted]

Newspapers To Reduce Size, Number of Editions

NC301556 Beirut Domestic in English 1510 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] National newspapers are to cut down on their size and on the number of publishing days in a bid to contain rising prices and avoid increasing subscription fees. A decision to this effect was taken today following a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Lebanese Press Association. A spokesman announced that newspapers will be published only 6 days a week, with each newspaper having the right to decide on its weekly holiday on condition that the Association be officially notified of the exact days of publication.

Other measures will also go into effect as of January the 1st, including the reduction of the size of the newspapers to no more than 12 pages, with only one weekly issue allowed to be larger.

A meeting of the Association chaired by Muhammad al-Ba'labakki stressed that the state was responsible for most of the difficulties and problems facing the press. It was pointed out that the failure of the authorities to provide facilities and services due to the press and journalists has greatly limited the ability of the press to carry out its duties and national obligations.

4 Lahd Militiamen Reported Killed in South

NC012138 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] According to reports received from south Lebanon this evening, a convoy of five armored cars and two tanks of the Israeli occupation forces and agent Lahd's militia advanced in the direction of Wadi al-Akhdar near 'Arab Salim at 1130 today. Amal Movement groups confronted the convoy and a battle ensued. Various types of weapons were used in the fighting. Four Lahd militiamen were killed and a number of others were wounded.

Amal Reacts to Lahd Allegations on Detainees

NC011238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] An Amal Movement information source has explained that the Movement has never made a distinction between Lebanese and Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons.

Responding to allegations made by agent Antoine Lahd, broadcast by Israeli Radio today, regarding negotiations for the release of the Al-Khiyam detainees, the source said: Non-Lebanese parties have been the direct cause of obstruction in these negotiations. Lahd's remarks are completely unfounded. The Movement not only had demanded the release of Al-Khiyam detainees but also the release of all the Palestinian detainees in the Israeli occupation prisons. It has insisted that the Al-Khiyam

Detention Center be closed down and all prisoners in the occupied Arab territories be released under the supervision of the International Red Cross.

Amal, Lebanese Forces Exchange Prisoners

NC021241 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The Lebanese Forces and the Amal Movement exchanged prisoners at the Central Security Committee Headquarters near the racetrack yesterday. The Amal Movement handed over Gaby Nahhal and Tony Sa'd, and the Lebanese Forces handed over Khalil Mahmud Siba'i, 'Abd al-Karim al-Qatirji, and Mihhu 'Ali Shufan.

Resistance Attack Patrols, Radar Emplacement

NC020718 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The Israelis continue massing their troops in the occupied border strip. Resistance is counteracting the military buildup by stepping up their operations against the positions held by the Israeli and Lahd forces. Resistance fighters have attacked a Lahd patrol in Wadi al-Akhdar near 'Arab Salim, killing four Lahd personnel. They also engaged a joint patrol on the road linking (Qunim) and Saff al-Hawa'. In addition, they detonated two mines hitting two patrols as these were traveling on Shama'-Tayr Harfa and 'Aynata-Bint Jubayl Road. They also attacked an Israeli radar emplacement on the Marun al-Ra's hills and rocketed a joint position in the Casino in 'Ayn Ibil.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Gives Grand Assembly Closing Speech

LD011000 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1333 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Closing speech by Najibullah, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and Revolutionary Council president, at the Grand Assembly in Kabul—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the most gracious. Dear brothers and sisters, compatriots, esteemed participants of the historic Grand Assembly and representatives of the proud people of Afghanistan, allow me to express my most cordial thanks for my election and the great confidence entrusted to me at this sensitive and historic stage of our history. Before all else, I consider my election for the position of president of the country as support for the policy of national reconciliation, recognition and credibility for the PDPA, and the way to the ever urgent attainment of peace and national consensus and the cessation of fratricide.

The position of the president of the country is not only a great honor but also a great responsibility. A burden of confidence and hope is being put on the shoulders of the president. The preservation of this confidence and the achievement of these hopes are my Afghan and patriotic duties and my responsibility as the son of this soil toward this beloved country of ours, toward the older generation of our compatriots, and toward the youths and contemporaries.

Let the words of the prophet of Islam give us strength when he says: O God protect my people from three evils—war, hunger, and prevarication. O God endow me with physical and spiritual power so that I serve the fatherland, Afghanistan, honestly while I am holding the position of president. [applause] O God endow me with the wisdom of our great forefathers who were the founders of the independent state of Afghanistan. In front of this great assembly I vow to offer all my energy, knowledge, and, if necessary, my life for the construction of Afghanistan and the sacred issue of national peace. [applause] Henceforth, I put to the judgment of the wise people of Afghanistan all my thoughts and deeds.

Today the voice of peace, which is drowning out the explosions of bombs and the whistles of bullets, is echoing louder. Today, national reconciliation has changed into a reality in our life. All political powers, whether inside or outside our country, and all those who consider themselves partners to the destiny of our country, must take into account that the protection of hundreds of thousands of villages from destruction, the rescue of the lives of tens of thousands of our compatriots, the renovation of institutions, dwellings, mosques and sacred places, and shops and schools, are the first yields of the policy of national reconciliation.

An ever increasing number of our compatriots turn to the policy of national reconciliation every day. A home of unity and national agreement is being built with their work-loving hands and warm hearts. We open wide the doors of the country to all citizens of the country. We have lit bright lamps at the doors of the homeland so that those who have lost their way in the darkness of deception or through bullying, or those lacking confidence, can return to their fatherland as soon as possible.

Eleven months have passed since the declaration of the policy of national reconciliation. During this period we have passed along an honorable path, which was full of events of real historic importance. We realized many facts. We realized that bravery and audacity are necessary for peace. The unilateral cease-fire and great compromises of the people's sovereignty showed to the people of the world our preparation for the commencement of peaceful dialogue with the opposition and a search for a solution to the internal dispute.

The nationwide party conference demonstrated that a strong power exists in the country which can push forward the policy of national reconciliation and implement it. It stirred the initiatives of the masses. Making its own chest a shield, it stood at the defense of the first sprouts of national reconciliation. This power is the Democratic Party of Afghanistan. In the united army of PDPA members, workers and peasants, members of the Armed Forces and state officials, and intellectuals of all nationalities and tribes have come together.

The PDPA has passed through a difficult struggle and tasted the sweetness of success and the bitterness of defeat. It has been forged in the heat and cold of events. It has put forward the policy of national reconciliation as a historic necessity of life. It has been the founder of the policy of national reconciliation and has persistently pursued it. National reconciliation does not mean defeat. This policy has been accepted through a scientific discussion by the PDPA. It answers the questions of what should be done in the book of life. Mahmud Tarzi, a patriot and a prominant intellectual, answered this question in this way: We should fight for national unity and put an end to war and fratricide. [applause]

The PDPA has sacrificed tens of thousands of its best sons to defend the people of the country. It has trained a great group of political activists who have learned the secret of servicing the masses and influencing them. They pass the test of time in struggle against the kindlers of the fire of war and fratricide. Therefore, the PDPA had all the necessary reasons to introduce its candidate to the post of president of Afghanistan.

In light of national reconciliation, the Constitution of the country was promulgated. The new Constitution provides broad possibilities for various parties and organizations concerning the advancement of political and organizational work, provided these activities are in the interest of ending bloodshed in the country, and safeguarding the territorial integrity and consolidating the independence of Afghanistan.

This Constitution reflects the ancient traditions of anti-oppression, assembly-type administration, and the efforts of Afghans toward true sovereignty, freedom, and equality of rights of the people. The principle of sovereignty of the people, which has been highlighted in an outstanding manner and which has been (?enshrined) in many items of this Constitution, means that the people themselves and only the people are the (?protecters) of national sovereignty.

The promulgation of the new Constitution and the election of the president are the greatest steps our state has taken toward national accord. 30 November, the day of promulgation, will be the national festival of all the people of Afghanistan. [applause] From this day forward, national reconciliation, by gaining a strong legal base, enters a new phase of creativity, action, and movement.

In the course of its history, Afghanistan for the first time has a [word indistinct] in its complete sense. This Constitution is popular because it has been studied, not only by a limited number of workers, but more than 2 million of our compatriots in the villages and cities of the country. In fact, this Constitution has been brought into being by the representatives of all the people and its creator are the people themselves.

This law is popular because each of its articles corresponds to the spirit of the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam and to the pure traditions of Afghan society and the important needs of its people. This Constitution is popular because of its contents and origins, which go back to the heroic uprising of the patriotic troops and officers of the Armed Forces under the leadership of the PDPA for the progress of the homeland and the well-being of the people. It is not out of place to say that the national democratic April Revolution, as the logical outcome of the long anti-oppressive and anticolonial struggle of the people of Afghanistan, is in no way a socialist or communist revolution, and the PDPA is not a communist party. [applause]

This popular constitution should be implemented by a popular president. What does this mean? What is meant by a popular president? First of all, the president should be from among the people. Before the revolution the country was ruled by regimes which were separated from the people. The people are not a slogan. They include peasants, workers, artisans, nomads, troops and officers, intellectuals, ulema and religious leaders, and national investors. However, various strata and groups of our society live under a variety of conditions and we have not yet (?passed) the point where every Afghan should get a fair share of the national wealth.

As far as we are concerned, all our compatriots have identical interests which are endorsed in our Constitution. These interests are peace, equal rights, and social justice. Serving those interests constitutes my service to the people as a whole. Reliance on the people means defending their interests and guiding them on the path which has been illuminated by the sun of national peace and the prosperity of the people. This (?is) what I see as the most important duty of a popular president. A popular president, in a state whose political foundations are based on a multiparty system and coalition, will carry out the duties assigned to him. Such a state manifests broad possibilities for exploiting the democratic potential of Afghan society in the light of the policy of national reconciliation, which the PDPA wants to share with the broadest patriotic forces of the country. No one from previous regimes was prepared to do this.

In the political arena, it has been the case that the president who has been put forward by one of the parties does not go beyond party interests. But a popular president cannot act that way. A president who is entrusted with the leadership of the people is obligated to seek solutions acceptable to all the patriotic forces. [applause] The president considers not only the interests of the PDPA but also the interests of all the people, starting from the toiling strata. Meanwhile, he coordinates and [word indistinct] the work and activity of all organizations and parties, including the PDPA, in this direction.

A popular president should be loyal to the traditional forms of rule, customs and habits, assembly, and national democracy, and should observe the traditional and historical life and the rights of various national strata of the country's population. He should possess a constructive approach, be skilled at holding dialogue with the opposition, be ready for compromise, be able to detect alternatives and various approaches to the solution of national questions, and should respond to these demands by a new approach to homeland questions.

I pledge to respect others' views. [applause] I will never, however, come under the influence of those who act in their narrow-minded group interests. [applause] As a priority, I will defend the general interests of the people, and moreover all efforts toward peace, against class, party, ideological and tribal interests. [applause]

Esteemed participants in the Grand Assembly, my brother Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Turkamens, Baluchis, Nurestanis, Pashaiis, Charaymaqs, Arabs, Kirghiz, Hindus, and all our persecuted people, the past rulers of Afghanistan loved to utter slogans in their own interests, about national unity and everybody's patriotic duty. However, as the popular saying goes: eating sweet meat does not sweeten the mouth. Thus, in practice and not in words, we should consolidate friendship between all the country's nationalities, tribes, and clans. [applause] We will consistently fight against supremacy, nationalist isolation, tribal discord, and mistrust. We are obligated to protect our multinational garden from the cold winds of war and drought and to bequeath it to future generations. [applause]

The country's Constitution which we promulgated, for the first time in the history of our state brings a broad legal base for the democratic solution of national questions. The principle of equal rights for all nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country and all citizens in the political, social, and economic and moral issues were registered in the new Constitution. But further efforts must be expanded in order to fill these principles with specific content.

Our primary duty in the sphere of national policy will be the enhancement of living standards in the backward regions of Badakhshan, Hazarajat, Nurestan, Paktia, Zabol, Ghowr, Badghis, and Nimruz. [applause] The government will be instructed to prepare a special plan for the economic, social, and cultural development of those regions. However, eliminating differences between the development levels of various provinces is a long-term task for which great material expenses are needed. With the help of the whole country, we will restore Qandahar city and will transform it into the most beautiful city in the country. [applause]

In connection with the prospects for solving the national question, it should be stated that this is a natural process and reflects the growth of the people's political consciousness. This right cannot be bestowed by some higher authority. This question can be practically resolved only when the forces who are demanding a solution to the national question maintain peace jointly with the central powers.

We have never been, and never will be, far from the caravan of mankind. Now our caravan has started moving toward the gigantic peaks of freedom, prosperity, and justice. We borrow with gratitude from the treasures of the experience and thoughts of mankind which accord with our national conditions and which are acceptable to our people. As the president of our Islamic country, I personally take into account the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam in the spiritual life of our people and I am preparing conditions for the burgeoning of national and Islamic values. I promise you that I shall never, in any of my deeds, deviate from the national and Islamic norms, traditions, and rituals which have been nurtured for centuries in the character of the people of Afghanistan. [applause]

Therefore, I will elaborate on the creation of a credible Islamic council and a council of tribes to be directly connected to the president's office. [applause] These councils will be composed of the ulema and the respected elders of the tribes, regardless of their political ideas, provided they struggle for reconciliation. The president will depend on their advice and cooperation in all responsible affairs.

The real meaning of democracy is that the people will become the masters of their destiny. One of the tragedies of prerevolutionary Afghanistan was that the manifestation of the will of the people had a very small role in the political life of the country. In practice, people were adjusted to the means of reforms from the top. For centuries the rights of common Afghans were violated by a dictatorship of officials, and this led to society's distrust of all governments. Our state apparatus has, unfortunately, failed to rid itself of past shortcomings.

Therefore, we address you Nurestanis, Hazaras and other national compatriots and say that a just solution to the nationalities problem can be provided through a fair and balanced representation of all nationalities and tribes in the high sociopolitical organs of state power and legislature, [applause] provided you compatriots actively concentrate your active role of maintaining peace and security in your areas.

We should not impose reforms and decisions on our people which are unacceptable to them because of their level of knowledge and their objective living conditions. Many reformists in Afghanistan, including those who really wanted progress in the country, perpetrated such mistakes. There are examples of such mistakes in the history of our party. Some party personalities tried to impose ideas on our people which were not welcomed and were not practical, regardless of traditions and national customs. In fact, the party, the people, and the revolution paid a high price for this adventurism and these deviations and, as you know, those responsible were punished. [applause]

We have our own history, which is unlike the history of other countries. We have our own customs and traditions which are the legacy of our forefathers. We have our own wisdom, the wisdom of many generations who set up an independent state in this country, for whose freedom they fought three wars against the colonialist British.

The revolution opened the way for real people's sovereignty, but the first lessons were difficult. Embezzlement, corruption, abuse of power, and the incompetence of some state officials causes unease among our people. If the life of a society moving toward renovation is impossible in the absence of broad democracy, similarly, the life of society is impossible without discipline and legality, which are the defenders of the people's sovereignty, legal rights, and freedom. Discipline and the legality of the state apparatus are not important for their own sake. They should be applied in order to create favorable conditions for the acceleration of economic growth, social progress, and increased social wealth, and inevitably to improve the living standards of all people.

Let everybody know that bureaucraticism in government departments and some cases of sabotage by officials hamper and sometimes cause the failure of some of our plans. Issues such as the inception and implementation of land and water reform, the labor law, and measures for improving the living conditions of workers, and fulfilling government pledges concerning agreements with the tribes living along our borders are important to us. The effectiveness and improvement of the administration and planning of investments, taking into account the prospect of domestic and foreign capital in the national economy, are of the utmost importance. I pledge to fight uncompromisingly to strengthen state discipline, and create a proper administrative apparatus which is will be accountable and obedient to the people. [applause]

I promise to struggle against bureaucracy, indifference toward the people, arrogance of position, and treacherous embezzlement. [applause] I regard it as my duty to appoint people from among the broad masses to participate in government affairs and various forms of control and thus to assist the real growth of democratic legality in the framework of the new Constitution. Our national parliament will be my fundamental helper and assistant in this task. [applause] I will rely on the support and unreserved assistance of social organizations and credible figures in eliminating bureaucracy.

I will talk about another subject of democracy:

Today the delegate from Laghman came to me and said: How should I address you in the future? A great thought is contained in this remark. Our languages have good and respectful forms of address. There is the word "comrade", which is customary in the collective of our party members. Party members use it when addressing each other. The word "comrade" in our party means colleague, cofighter, ally, and brother, and reflects the international dimension of relations among the world's toilers. PDPA members can use it with pride. However, the state would not oblige the people of Afghanistan to use this word and when addressing each other they should use other customary titles which exist in the culture of our country. [applause]

The transformations taking place today in the life of the country and its political system will give new impetus to our movement to eliminate economic backwardness. The national wealth of the country has been drawn into this movement, and every citizen of Afghanistan must take part in this movement so that he can discharge his patriotic duty. The national reconciliation process is providing feasible conditions for the establishment of mutually advantageous conditions for all economic principles and for broadening foreign economic contacts. Reciprocal trust, cooperation, and regional and international economic security form the foundation of these relations.

Economic policy and its forthcoming new structure will rely not on socialist economic policy, but on the principle of a mixed economy and on providing broad possibilities for national investors and foreign investment. Government and administrative organs must coordinate the plans for political transformations with economic measures. Priority must be given to the growth and expansion of private sector economic projects, above all in productive fields. On the basis of the national reconciliation policy, the state guarantees freedom for the activities of private capital and supports the creation of mixed enterprises.

We invite all national investors to take part in this task on the basis of specific guarantees which will be given to them by the government. [applause] Moreover, efforts will be made to broaden mutually advantageous cooperation in trade and economy questions with socialist countries.

As president, I am obligated to follow this principle in the economic life of the country. I will make every effort to ensure the fulfillment of the 5-year plan and the creation of a strong and independent economy on the basis of strengthening the status of national producers of commodities and strengthening market growth. I will attend to the genuine growth of inhabitants' incomes and to improving people's living conditions. Starting at the beginning of the coming academic year, free breakfasts will be provided to the pupils of schools and colleges and the pocket money of students will be increased. [applause] In the first instance I will try to control price rises and think about reducing prices. I will work extensively for the growth and broadening of medical care and public health and pay relentless attention to implementing our program in this field.

Our government's economic and social objectives aim to generalize and broaden opportunities so that everyone can work on the land, in stores, factories, or offices, and have confidence in a guaranteed future. Together with the implementation of these objectives, the state will mobilize all its forces in relations with the Afghan society and will consider its interests. It will respond to the desires and aspirations of the whole society.

Esteemed members of the Grand Assembly, the fact of life today is this that we are forced to use our formidable forces and means against those extremists who are being armed, mobilized, and encouraged from abroad, for a struggle against the people of Afghanistan, although of course their strivings are futile and doomed to failure. Therefore, the strengthening and safeguarding of our Armed Forces in high combat readiness is one of the key issues for peace. The political platform of the extremists and their hostile approach to legal sovereignty in Afghanistan lead us to believe that without strong armed forces the maintenance of peace in our country will be very difficult. Once again I want to mention that we are not abandoning the desire to solve complicated problems around the negotiating table and we are awaiting a rational approach from the opposite side. [applause]

I should mention clearly that the heroic Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, under the command of the president, who is at the same time the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, is the confident guarantor for implementing the policy of national reconciliation. Our Armed Forces, as the defender of the gains of the revolution, protect all national and state interests and bear the heavy load of the struggle against the extremists. Our Armed Forces are the guarantor of the independence and territorial integrity of the country and the unity of the people of Afghanistan. [applause]

The issues of improving the accommodations and material life of the personnel of the Armed Forces have a special place. However, our soldiers do not yet perceive the measures which have been taken in this respect. In some regions they do not receive the subsistence and clothing allocated for them. I will be a friend and brother of soldiers. [applause] In the event that there is the slightest disrespect for a soldier or a lack of attention to his demands, those responsible will be seriously punished. [applause] I am confident that all those responsible will regard the duty of strengthening and consolidating the Armed Forces as their most important duty, a most necessary and immediate duty, under the present circumstances of Afghanistan's development and will use all necessary efforts to resolve them.

I draw the attention of all participants at this great Grand Assembly to the following issue:

The political solution of events inside and around Afghanistan rightly provides food for thought for all Afghans as well as the international public. Those not interested in this issue create barriers to resolving this critical situation in this part of Asia and create difficulties for the timetable for the withdrawal of the limited military units of the USSR from Afghanistan. It should be mentioned that Afghanistan's supposed problem is not the problem of the presence of Soviet forces. It is appropriate to mention that the Government of Afghanistan requested the deployment of the limited military units of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. It has already been made clear that these limited Soviet military units are ready to return to their peacemaking homeland. The Soviet regiments in fact have already begun to return to their country.

The Government of Afghanistan attaches enormous importance to the talks with Pakistan's government in Geneva via D. Cordovez, personal envoy of the UN secretary general, and wants them to reach a productive conclusion as soon as possible.

The issue related to the limited Soviet contingents, who are staying in our country at the request of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, is one part of the political solution that certainly will be one of the results of the Geneva's talks. We, all of us, are deeply thankful to our Soviet friends for the great assistance rendered to Afghanistan's people by sending their internationalist soldiers. To express our goodwill concerning the acceleration of their return to their peace-loving country, we decided to discuss this issue with the Soviet side. During these talks it was decided that the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingent will take place not in 16 months as we previously proposed in Geneva, but within a time not longer than 12 months. [applause] We will present this proposal at the next round of the Geneva talks.

Taking into consideration the fact that almost all the documents at the Geneva talks are organized, the arrangement of a timetable, in the shortest possible time, which will prepare the ground for the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingent, will be agreed upon. However to achieve these results demands, seriously demands, that the interference in the affairs of Afghanistan be stopped and its nonresumption guaranteed. [applause] We will go to the next round of the Geneva talks with goodwill and with the firm intention that this round will be the final round of the talks.

We want, at the same time, to more actively continue our efforts in the future to create a coalition government. The creation of a coalition government and its successful activities will allow the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingent from the Republic of Afghanistan to be further accelerated. The fixing of 12 months as the period for withdrawal can be reduced, provided that the leaders of the seven-party alliance in reply to the extension of our cease-fire for another 6 months declare a reciprocal commitment to a cease-fire...[applause] and guarantee the nonresumption of combat operations against the Republic of Afghanistan.

At the present time, the Soviet Armed Forces are now stationed in 13 provinces of Afghanistan. The state is ready to extend this process in other provinces of the country. If Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, Bashir Dawlatzay from Baghlan, Mullah Malang in Qandahar, Mullah Nasem in Helmand, Toran Esma'el from Herat, Sayyed Jagran from Ghazni, Farid from Kapisa, Mullah Jalaloddin Haqani from Jadran, Baser from Badakhshan, and others, who portray the reason of their armed struggle as the existence of Soviet forces and believe that this issue is really the obstacle to ensuring peace in the country, I officially propose on behalf of the Grand Assembly, which elected me as president, that this obstacle will be removed through an agreement and based on the following conditions:

In reply to the state's extension of the cease-fire for another 6 months, they too should avoid combat operations during this time. They should give necessary guarantees in this regard and present their proposals together with an explanation of their views about the future of Afghanistan and ways to establish peace in the country. If they promise to observe the peace conditions, the Soviet forces will leave the territory of Afghanistan based on a short timetable, which (?has been agreed upon). [applause]

The Soviet forces, first of all, will return to their peace-loving country from those provinces where a pledge for observation of peace and cessation of combat activities is given. We sincerely request from the noble inhabitants of the various provinces of our beloved country, from the elders, theologians, and the intelligentsia, in the name of the homeland, in the name of all those who are dear and sacred to the Muslim people of Afghanistan and to humanity, that they embark on the road of peace and organize peace assemblies and delegates and end the disaster of fratricide and destruction of all those things that are dear to and loved by us.

The Soviet forces will leave those provinces that put these peaceful measures into practice, ensure security, and foil provocation from abroad. As to what the heads of the armed opposition groups, who use this issue as a pretex, will say after this, I leave the judgment to you, the representatives of this great assembly. Therefore, we hope that a sound wisdom will replace the stand of these forces.

Today, I will not repeat those words, which were addressed to the opposition on 14 July with a proposal of posts and principles of cooperation. But I am ready to study a specific program of agreement with the opposition. However difficult it might be, I will spare no energy in this direction in order to explain to the opposition that national reconciliation has no alternative except war. We should learn to live in peace. I believe in the sound wisdom of my people and in their capability to unite in the struggle to achieve peace. I invite each Afghan, including those who are outside our country's borders, to this cause. Get away as soon as possible from the cave-style of living and thinking concerning the destiny of peace and Afghanistan.

As the president, I am ready to talk with each one of the opposition in order to assess the burning problems of ending the war and establishing peace in the country. Such a meeting need not necessarily take place on Afghan territory. Our joint steps to welcome each other and mutual agreement to create a coalition government will result in resolving the country's problems by political means, ending combat operations, and guaranteeing the immediate return of the limited Soviet military contingent to their country. [applause] We see in this matter our internationalist duty toward our good neighbor, the Soviet Union. We see in this matter our patriotic mission toward the proud and freedom-loving people of our country. We see in this cause our moral mission toward the sacred religion of Islam and God, the merciful and compassionate. [applause]

We invite them not to create obstacles in the way of national reconciliation, based on previous annoyances, selfishness, and pride. Those people who are honest with their people and love them should express a constructive proposal to achieve national peace.

As the leader of Afghanistan, from behind this worthy tribune, I reconfirm the guarantees that were given to the opposite side. These are as follows:

The extension of the cease-fire until 20 July 1988, that is, for another 6 months.

Friendly relations with all political forces who are in favor of peace and honestly want to cooperate.

These guarantees are for a peaceful dialogue, to seek ways to find a national compromise. [applause]

These guarantees are for the creation of a coalition government and bodies of a coalition administration.

These guarantees are for the open and democratic election of a National Council.

These guarantees are for the assistance and defense of those who return to their family nucleus and a peaceful life.

The circle of these guarantees could be extended. We are ready to assess the proposals by the opposite side.

Esteemed members of the Grand Assembly, the important duty of the state leadership is to carry on its active foreign policy. In continuing the sacred traditions of our fathers and forefathers, we want an independent, sovereign, united, and nonaligned Afghanistan, a friend to all countries of the world. I would like to state with pride that the prestige of Afghanistan, in particular after the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation, is consistently enhancing. Today, Afghanistan is a full member of the United Nations and is one of the founders and active members of the Nonaligned Movement. It has established diplomatic relations with 82 countries. This is the best basis for consolidating Afghanistan's international policy, the development of goodneighborly relations with the countries of the region, and the establishment and consolidation of future good relations with all countries of the world.

Today the responsible departments are engaged in assessing the priorities in our foreign policy to analyze the growth of the national reconciliation process in the country and various aspects of its international influence over our country. Long-term measures concerning the maintenance of Afghanistan's interests on the international level, and the role of the president as a person who has the fundamental responsibility for the destiny of the people, have been advanced in this regard.

In its foreign policy, the Republic of Afghanistan will follow the principles of nonalignment, positive and active neutrality, noninterference in other's affairs, and the struggle for peace. The Republic of Afghanistan is interested in establishing friendly relations not only with socialist countries, but also with the capitalist countries, and first of all with neighboring countries.

Our relations with the friendly country of India are good and consistently strengthening and expanding. [applause] The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan desires all-round cooperation and relations with all countries and observes the UN Charter. It has deep relations with the countries of the Nonaligned Movement and the Islamic Conference Organization.

Our most important foreign policy tasks in the near future are the speedy cessation of the undeclared imposed war on Afghanistan, the rebuffing of every sort of aggression against our national sovereignty, and the cessation of every kind of interference in our internal affairs. The Republic of Afghanistan regards its (?mission) as one which aims to solve this problem in terms of an international response.

Afghanistan wants to eliminate military clashes and create a system of international security. Afghanistan will play its traditional role in maintaining stability in this region of Asia and with nonaligned countries and will never agree to any plan that all or part of its territory will be transformed into a springboard against neighboring countries. It was solely for this lofty aim that the Grand Assemblies of 1915, 1941, and 1955, and the current Grand Assembly, focused on the most important international aspects of the policy of national reconciliation.

If these plans depend on anti-Sovietism, I would like to specifically state here that, in accordance with the Afghan-Soviet Treaty of 1921, with the coming to power of every regime regardless of their political nature—which at present is valid—Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are mutually responsible for neutralizing hostile groups' activities in both countries. This international responsibility of our state, which was rendered unhesitatingly before, is being rendered now, as it will be in the future. [applause] Let everyone know that reconciliation with the internal and external forces is not and cannot be contrary to this principle. This principle enhances the relations of the Afghan state with its great northern neighbor, and they will remain forever. [applause]

It is clear that solving the Afghan question through war and interference from abroad is impossible. There is only one way, and that is the path of goodwill and constructive steps by our neighbors, Iran and Pakistan. We state once again that the cessation of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is not only in the interests of the persecuted people of Afghanistan, but is also in the interests of neighboring countries and their peoples and the international situation as a whole.

The Republic of Afghanistan invites the leaders of its eastern and western neighboring countries to give up hostility and embark upon the establishment of negotiations and the establishment of relations of mutual interest along with good-neighborliness between our countires. We are ready to meeting to discuss this at every level, any time and any place. [applause]

The Afghan leadership completely agrees with and highly regards the USSR's position concerning the political normalization of the situation around Afghanistan. We support the efforts of the UN secretary general and his envoy, Mr Cordovez, assistant UN secretary general, at the Geneva talks. We express our gratitude to all governments, political and social figures, and other persons for their warm support for the policy of national reconciliation. We felt with great pleasure the support during the great celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution in Moscow and we became confident that national reconciliation and the policy of accord with the opposition are being put into effect in a number of countries around the world to solve the problem of war and maintain peace and political stability.

We are interested in the convocation of a broad international conference for normalizing the political situation around Afghanistan with the participation of the Soviet Union and the United States. The implementation of the proposed measures could be transformed into a great undertaking in the interests of peace and in consolidating stability in the region. We are looking with hope at the great event to which the whole world is looking forward, that is, the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Our people and its best sons have paid and are paying a very heavy price for peace on the territory of Afghanistan. They are actively struggling on the path of national reconciliation. In drafting and implementing the policy of national reconciliation we rely on the experience and will of the people and international experience for the solution of disputes.

Before this historic Grand Assembly I pledge I will not retreat until the final victory has been achieved for the policy of national reconciliation. [applause] But our people say that it takes two hands to clap. Once again we invite all Afghan people to actively cooperate and act to maintain peace as the sacred homeland's popular duty and Afghan duty. [applause]

Very esteemed participants in the Grand Assembly, the path toward national reconciliation in our country is difficult. However, along with all national patriotic forces in the country, we should march along this path under the banner of national unity. [applause] Let peace and prosperity be a lighted torch in every Afghan house! [applause] Peace, and only peace, for you dear compatriots! Thank you. [applause]

Supreme Soviet Sends Message to Najibullah

LD012113 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The following congratulatory message was sent to Kabul by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the occasion of the election of esteemed Najibullah as president of Afghanistan:

Comrade Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan: Esteemed Comrade Najibullah:

We express our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your election as president of the Republic of Afghanistan. We regard your election to the high position of president of the Afghan Government as affirmation of the righteousness of the national reconciliation policy. The initiative shown in announcing this policy and the relentless endeavor for its realization are linked with your name. We express hope for the unity of all the patriotic forces of Afghanistan on the basis of national accord.

The Soviet Union in the future, too, will assist the rapid achievement of a political solution to events around Afghanistan. We express the hope that you, as president of the Republic, will also consolidate and broaden traditional Soviet-Afghan cooperation for the reciprocal interests of our countries.

We desire for you the restoration of durable peace in the land of Afghanistan, and through you for all the people of Afghanistan.

[Signed] Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet

Moscow, Kremlin, 30 November 1987

Protest Made to Pakistan Over Missile Attack

LD011753 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1130 today and was handed the following protest note by the director of the First Political Department:

The relevant authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan have reported that despite repeated objections and protests by the Republic of Afghanistan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 28 November, as a result of firing surface-to-surface missiles from the other side of the border on the border security forces in Daka and on security border posts in Torkham, two persons were killed and another eight were injured.

Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan again strongly protests to the Government of Pakistan because of these attacks by the Armed Forces of Pakistan, and asks the relevant Pakistani authorities to prevent the repetition of such attacks as soon as possible. Such attacks only intensify the situation in the border regions. Responsibility for the heavy consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

Mujahidin Attacks Launched in Khowst, Konar

LD012005 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The BIA military correspondent reports from Khowst district that the extremist opposition elements, using reactive [as heard] missiles, attacked Bak subdistrict and Lakan region of this major district, and damaged a number of residential houses belonging to our compatriots. This provocative and anti-Afghan action took place at a time when the representatives of all the tribes, clans, and fraternal nationalities of the country were gathered in Kabul for the historic Grand Assembly to discuss the restoration of peace in Afghanistan, including in Khowst major district. However, the extremists, with hearts full of grudges and without paying the slightest attention to the wishes of the Grand Assembly, continued their savage attacks against the inhabitants of Khowst major district in complete disregard of the votes of the people's delegates to the Grand Assembly.

According to another report by the BIA military correspondent the extremist opposition, using heavy weapons, reactive missiles, and recoilless rifles, mercilessly attacked the surroundings of Konar Province. They martyred two of our compatriots and injured another six, including women and children. The report adds that as a result of firing hundreds of shells from reactive, mortar, and recoilless guns, 117 houses were destroyed in Sarkani district, 13 houses were destroyed in Asmar district, and 10 houses were destroyed in the surroundings of Naray district. Also, seven shops were set on fire in Asadabad city.

The National Reconciliation Commission of Konar Province strongly denounced this barbaric and inhumane action of the extremists at a time when the peaceful Grand Assembly is meeting in our historic country to try to end the war and fratricide and expressed its hatred for the organizers of war, blood, and fire in the Republic of Afghanistan, including the chiefs of the extremist groups entrenched in Pakistani territory who avoid compromise and reconciliation between Afghans.

Bangladesh

Protest Lodged Over BBC 'Baseless' Report

BK020206 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The government has lodged a protest against the report broadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, which was baseless and utterly sourceless. This was stated by the information minister, Anwar Zahid, while briefing newsmen in Dhaka yesterday. He said the British high commissioner was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and handed over a protest note against BBC in this regard. The BBC had broadcast a baseless and concocted report saying that the the United

States ambassador in Dhaka yesterday called on President Ershad and requested him to institute a probe into the killing of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975. The information minister said that the news item was baseless and that the U.S. ambassador has categorically denied the report.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka in a statement last night reported that the BBC did not verify its report that the U.S. ambassador requested President Ershad to investigate the death of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The spokesman said at no time had the U.S. ambassador on behalf of the U.S. Government or anyone else requested President Ershad or any member of the Bangladesh Government to investigate the death of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Zahid Expresses 'Regret'

HK011533 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The deputy prime minister in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs has announced the release of five more leaders of three political parties. They are: A.M. Obaidur Rahman, Retired Colonel Ali Ahmed, Retired Colonel Akbar Hussain of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Zillur Rahman of the Awami League, and Al-Mujahid of the Jamiat-i Islami. Announcing their release at a crowded press conference this evening in Dhaka, Professor M.A. Matin said that this step has been taken with the objective of finding a political solution in accordance with the government's declaration of creating a favorable climate.

On the situation in the capital and in other parts of the country, he said that life has nearly returned to normal with regard to the attendance of the officers and employees in government, semi-government and autonomous bodies. Banks and business institutions also functioned normally. Except for a few textile and jute mills, all mills and factories also functioned normally.

He said that because of the improved situation the duration of curfew hours has been relaxed. The curfew will be in force from 1800 tomorrow evening to 0600 Thursday morning.

In reply to a question, Professor Matin said that since last evening 181 persons were arrested throughout the country, 72 of whom were arrested in Dhaka for violating the orders. He added there were stray incidents in some places today but no one was killed.

The home minister told another questioner said that some reponses have been received from the political parties in light of the proposal made by the president for holding dialogue, but he did not elaborate.

The information, labor, and manpower minister, Anwar Zahid, was also present at the news conference. He expressed deep regret and distress over the news report broadcast by the BBC this morning that the American ambassador in Dhaka met with President Ershad and requested him for a probe into the assassination of Sheikh Mujiour Rahman. He said that the American ambassador categorially denied this report and described it as false and baseless. The minister said that we do not expect that an institution like the BBC to broadcast such incredible news. Those who gave BBC this information are malicious, he added. The information and home secretaries were also present at the news conference.

More Opposition Leaders Released 1 Dec

BK011311 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 1 Dec 87

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Next, Bangladesh, where several more opposition leaders detained during the current unrest have been released from prison. The government says it is trying to create a more favorable climate for starting negotiations with the opposition parties who are demanding the resignation of President Ershad. From Dhaka, where a state of emergency is restricting full news coverage, Phil Jones reports:

[Begin recording] Two men were released within hours of each other—Obaidur Rahman, number two to Khaleda Zia in the Bangladesh Nationalist Party [BNP], and Zillur Rahman, a member of the ruling presidium of the Awami League. Three more—two from the BNP and one from Jamiat-i Islami—were also given their freedom. This brings to nine the number of opposition leaders who have been freed from detention as part of the government's announced plan for a phased release of all political leaders being held under the Special Powers Act. They hope it will start what they call a meaningful dialogue with the opposition over the unrest which the government admits has crippled the economy over the last 20 days.

The home minister, Abdul Matin, has again said that they are keen to establish a line of communication with the opposition leaders, although the president has made it clear that he has no intention of giving in to their main demand that he should resign. There are an estimated 5000-6000 people being held under the Special Powers Act which gives the government the right to detain people indefinitely without trial. One of them is BBC man Ataus Samad, although the home minister has said that he will be released eventually when the situation improves. Today he was moved from the central jail to the city's postgraduate medical institute where he will be kept under guard but have ready access to the medical facilities necessary to treat his heart condition. [end recording]

3 Injured in University Clashes; Bombs Seized

BK021125 Hong Kong AFP in English 1114 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 2 (AFP)—Three students were injured in clashes at a university near here and 11 home-made bombs have been found in separate raids, official sources said Wednesday. Police said they arrested two people Tuesday after finding two bombs in a raid on a house in old Dhaka. A young man was also caught with two bombs and a large dagger. In another city district police found an abandoned basket containing seven bombs.

In the nearby town of Savar rival students of the Jahangir Nagar University clashed Tuesday following alleged attempts by a group of students and teachers to hold a meeting on the campus, the official news agency (BSS) reported. BSS said 12 student rooms were ransacked during the clashes, but did not indicate whether the incident involved pro and anti-government students.

Meetings and rallies were banned under last week's proclamation of a 120-day state of emergency by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad after a series of anti-government protests.

Curfew Hours Relaxed in Dhaka, Other Cities

BK021614 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The government has further relaxed curfew hours in view of the improvement in the overall situation. There will be no curfew from 0600 in the morning till 2200 at night tomorrow. (?As already) reported, the curfew [words indistinct] tonight will remain in force till 0600 tomorrow morning in Dhaka, Narayangaj, Chittagong, Khulna, and Rajshahi. Industrial areas of Adamji, Fotullah, and Demra in Dhaka and Narayanganj and (Fulsdahat) industrial area in Chittagong have been exempted from curfew. All government and semigovernment offices, banks, and other organizations will function in accordance with their own timings.

Iran

Tehran Claims U.S. Base in Kuwait Planned

LD020921 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] The U.S. War Ministry, the Pentagon, announced yesterday that the United States and Kuwait have reached agreement to establish a military base in Kuwaiti coastal waters. According to a *Reuter* report, on the basis of this agreement, at least one ship [as heard] in Kuwait's coastal waters will be placed at the disposal of the U.S. forces as a military base for possible operations. For security reasons, the Pentagon has refrained from divulging the details of this agreement.

Saudi Expulsion of Pakistani Troops Noted

LD011854 Tehran IRNA in English 1838 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] London, Dec. 1, IRNA—Saudi Arabia is becoming increasingly restless about the rising Islamic movement and is sending 10,000 elite Pakistani troops stationed in the Saudi soil back home, according to reports from Islamabad.

Pakistan has kept a tank brigade in Saudi Arabia since the early 1980's at the request of the Kingdom, ostensibly to help defend against external threats, but in reality intended to provide extra security for the royal family.

According to *The Washington Post* Monday, the move underlines the Saudis' qualms about the spread of Iran's Islamic influence, most notably after their massacre of pilgrims in Mecca on July 31.

It said officials in Islamabad are reluctant to comment on the decision, but suggested that the troop issue surfaced 18 months ago when the Saudis wanted to replace some 10 per cent of the Pakistanis because of their religious allegiance, but Pakistan refused.

The officials further spoke of disputes over Riyadh reportedly wanting to use the brigade as a "front-line force to help Saudi Arabia's ally, Iraq" in its war against Islamic Iran.

The paper related that Pakistan has traditionally tried to maintain close relations with Iran and that the former, too, is facing a rising Islamic movement.

"Pakistan's Shi'ites have been organizing politically in recent months and have emerged as a force in the already tumultuous Pakistani political scene," it said in its report from Islamabad.

It quoted Iran's ambassador to Pakistan recently as saying that a million Muslims could and will be on the "streets of Pakistan within an hour."

Khamene'i, Montazeri Meet, Discuss War Issues

LD011801 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Dec. 1, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i met future leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri here Tuesday.

The president, who is here to inspect Mohammad (SAW) Corps maneuvers in this holy city, presented a report to the ayatollah on current issues of the country especially the wide-scale dispatch of popular forces to the war fronts.

Ayatollah Montazeri gave guidelines concerning various issues of the country.

Khamene'i on U.S. Vulnerability

LD020843 Tehran IRNA in English 0633 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Qom, Dec. 2, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday night said theological centers in Iran uphold the values of the Islamic revolution and that without those institutions the Islamic revolution would be devoid of its ideological constituents.

Speaking in a gathering of ulema and teachers of the Qom theological center the president said that the ulema promote virtue and faith in the soceity.

As for participation of ulema in war fronts the president said that their presence boosts the morale of the Muslim combatants of Iran.

On the situation in the region and the presence of the U.S. and NATO fleets in the Persian Gulf he said that the objective was to protect the interests of Kuwait. Another reason is that the U.S. is concerned over the future of Iraq and it brought its fleets to the Persian Gulf to make up for weakness of Iraq in protecting itself.

He said the U.S. is highly vulnerable in the Persian Gulf and that Iran is capable of hitting U.S. ships within a certain range, he added that such an event will be a grave humiliation for the U.S.

Referring to the internal situation in Iraq he said that at present the Iraqi regime is in its worst condition since it launched the war on Iran and that anti-government protests are wide-spread.

The president added that there is a need for a new move in the war fronts which is dealing repeated blows on the enemy. This move will take the war to its final outcome and the recent enthusiasm shown by the people to take part in war efforts shows public determination to end the war, he concluded.

President Khamene'i on 'D-Day' Sacred Defense

LD011529 Tehran IRNA in English 1516 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Arak, Central Prov., Dec. 1, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Tuesday that the massive presence of Iranian poeple in the grand maneuvers, launched nation-wide by Mohammad (SAW) Corps has not only worried enemies of Islam but has also caused the U.S. policies to suffer serious set-backs throughout the world.

The president, addressing the 100,000-strong Mohammad (SAW) Corps from throughout the province, blasted the U.S.' futile attempts to pit its regional puppets against the Islamic Republic.

Khamene'i, who also heads the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), called on the people to deal decisive blows on the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf, which he said, is aimed at protecting its mercenary regimes.

President Khamene'i, saying that Iran is quite able to deal fatal blows on the U.S. in case it continues its presence in the region, warned that the time is ripe for the Iranian people to strike determinedly on the Iraqi regime and the U.S.

"Iran should show its real power in the face of America's bullying policy in the region because they (Americans) do not understand the language of logic," stressed the president.

The SDC head said that Iran's current war tactics is to deal relentless blows on Iraqi troops, adding that when officials announce the D-Day, all people will be mobilized to participate in this sacred defence.

There is no doubt that the grave situation created by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime in the region will be settled by Iran's Muslim combatants, said Khamene'i, noting "our relentless blows on the enemy are aimed at restoring security and stability to the region."

Addressing world powers, President Khamene'i told them that their support for the tottering Iraqi regime is of no use any more. Iran's determination to deal relentless blows will eliminate the Baghdad regime once and for all from the world political scene, he added.

More than 100,000 volunteer forces from throughout the province grouped in 600 battalions, staged grand military exercises here, in an effort to show their combat readiness.

Prosecutor General Addresses Mohammad Corps

LD011800 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec. 1, IRNA—Over 100,000 Basij forces from the islands, ports, cities and various districts of this southern province held a Grand Mohammad (SAW) Corps maneuvers here today.

Prosecutor General Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Musavi-Kho'iniha, who addressed the massive gathering of combatant forces, said Iran is not war-monger, and has to perform its duty of holy defence.

As long as Saddam (Husayn) and his Ba'thist regime rule Iraq, the Islamic Republic is exposed to the constant danger of aggression, Musavi-Kho'iniha said, adding in order to thwart any such aggression the Iranian nation should dethrone the Iraqi regime.

On the U.S. aggression in the Persian Gulf, the country's prosecutor general said Washington is trespassing the waterway on the false pretext of defending 'its interests'. "Is it logical that the Islamic Republic's and other littoral states' interests in the Persian Gulf as well as navigation safely be jeopardized so that the U.S.' illegitimate interests be safe?" he questioned.

Meanwhile, the people of Khuzestan Province southwest Iran, also put a grand display of their power and resistance against aggression of the Iraqi regime and the U.S. staging Mohammad (SAW) Corps' maneuvers in the provincial capital city of Ahvaz today.

Over 200 military divisions of the province, who gathered for the military excercises, announced their firm determination for continuation of the imposed war till ultimate victory.

Imam Khomeyni's representative and head of Shahid (Martyr) Foundation Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi who addressed the combatants said that if the Islamic Republic was deprived of 20,000,000 Basij and Army forces, the sworn foes of the Islamic revolution would deal horrible blows on the revolution.

If foreign powers really wish to see an end to the Iraqi-imposed war they should cease supporting the Ba'thist regime of Iraq instead of equipping it with further war equipment, he stressed.

The presence of U.S. fleets in the Persian Gulf is a vain bid to avert Saddam's (Husayn) imminent fall said Karrubi, adding that Washington blundered in thinking that its fleets can maintain Saddam in power and frighten the Iranian nation. However, he added, the Iranian Muslims who have bravely weathered all the suffering have no fear of the equipment and fleets of the U.S. or other foreign forces, noted Karrubi.

In another development reports reaching here from Kerman Province say that 840 battalions of Basij forces of the province, including the cities of Rafsanjan, Sirjan, Jiroft, Bam, Baft, Shahr-e Babak, Kerman, Bardshr, Kahnuj and Zarand will stage the Grand Mohammad (SAW) Corps maneuvers on Thursday.

Also over 100 divisions of popular forces of Azarbayjan-e Khavari Province have been organized to carry out the splendid Mohammad (SAW) Corps maneuver in Ardabil on Wednesday and in Tabriz the provincial capital on Thursday.

Musavi Addresses Departing Battalions

LD012206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] In reply to the 10-point statement of the Supreme War Support Council and on the occasion of the 6th day of Mobilization Week, 150 battalions of new forces from Tehran Province today departed for the theaters of war within the context of the great dispatch of the troops of the Holy Mohammad Corps, may God's peace be upon him and his scion.

Before departing these forces carried out splendid maneuvers in the thoroughfares near the University of Tehran and participated in the ceremonies planned for this occasion. The troops of the Holy Mohammad Corps—may God's peace and benedictions be upon him—chanted the slogans such as "We are the army of the messenger of Islam," "We are the cries of the wrath of the imam and the ummah," "We are the supporters of the Koran," "We are the army of Mohammad and we are going to the fronts," and "In order to preserve Mohammad's country, Mohammad's army will go to the fronts." The troops moved in closely packed lines amid the enthusiastic welcome of the Hezbollah people, who threw sugared almonds, rose water, and candy, and entered the University of Tehran where special ceremonies concerning the great dispatch of the Mohammad Corps were held. They all gathered there to listen to the remarks made by the prime minister.

In this great dispatch, which was also attended by 300 clergymen bound for the fronts and a large number of women Hezbollah students of Tehran, Prime Minister Musavi said: For several months arrogance has been creating an adverse climate, hatching conspiracies, and applying pressure with all its political and military ploys. Today with this great dispatch, which is the beginning of a movement on a nationwide level, we are giving an appropriate reply to their conspiracies and are demonstrating that the Islamic Republic is solely thinking about victory.

The prime minister added: Today, in just one moment, we will dispatch the largest group of troops ever to the battlefronts from Tehran. This has made the entire world worry because the United States thought that no one would go to the battlefronts as people were scared of its warships, its bullying and loud clamoring, its demonstrations of strength, and its spying activities. Our reply is to dispatch troops, a response that has an effect on the world and makes despondent the suporters of Saddam who is falling. These movements will have an effect in areas that have been created among Islamic nations. Mr Musavi added: These troops will destroy the spells cast by all Western and Eastern sorcerers, and will make the wretched servants of arrogance and our regional and global enemies despondent. All our people and the world now believe that Islam has reached the crossroads. Today your voice and your justice-seeking cries have stifled all other voices in the world. The reply to all the plots which our nation is giving today in order to safeguard Islam and the achievements of the Islamic Revolution is to follow the words and actions of the leader of the revolution. We will remain steadfast to the last drop of blood and the last house.

The prime minister concluded: Our nation will not give in to compromise under any circumstance whatsoever, because the nation has given a lot of blood and paid a high price for the victory of the revolution and a return to Islam. It will not go under the boots of the infidel for the sake of its own freedom.

At the end of these ceremonies, while prayers were delivered for the victory of the fighters of Islam, 150 battalions were dispatched to join the combat units of the 1st Army Corps of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Palestinians

LD011759 Tehran IRNA in English 1739 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1 IRNA—The Foreign Ministry, in a statement released here Tuesday, reaffirmed the Islamic Republic's full support for the Palestinian people's just struggle against the Zionist regime in the occupied lands.

As it has already proved, the Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to mobilize all its resources to confront the Zionist entity and liberate the holy Qods, said the statement released on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

It said that the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian nation is marked at a time when regional status quo is 'very critical' because of the treacherous efforts of the U.S. and local reactionaries to divert the Palestinian nation from its just cause, by pushing them into a compromise.

To this end, the statement said, heads of reactionary Arab states at the Amman summit, instead of taking up the cudgels for the Palestinian issue, vainly attempted to divert public opinion from the main enemy, the regime occupying the holy Qods, in a bid to cover up their reconciliation with the Zionist enemy, by creating imaginary enemies, he added.

The Foreign Ministry statement castigated the Cairo regime's return to the Arab fold, decided by the Amman summit, as efforts aimed at legitimizing the Camp David accord and expanding the Zionist regime's domination over the Arab and Muslim world.

It would have been better for heads of reactionary Arab states to support struggles aimed at ridding Muslims from the Zionist enemy's yoke and liberating the holy Qods rather than suppress their own Muslim nations, stressed the statement.

The statement further underlined the necessity for the Muslim world to wage an armed struggle for liberation of the occupied lands and to condemn any compromising efforts vis-a-vis the Zionist enemy's aggressions.

Khamene'i Receives Lebanese Muslim Officials

LD011042 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA—President Khamene'i received Lebanese religious leaders Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, Sayyad 'Abbas Musawi, and Shaykh Sa'd Sha'ban in separate meetings here Monday.

The status of Muslims in Lebanon, the country's economy as well as Zionist operations in the occupied Lebanon were discussed during the meetings.

President Khamene'i emphasized the need to unite Lebanese combatants and to consolidate Muslims' efforts for solving Muslim world's problems.

The president also said that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to support the struggles of Muslim people to Lebanon to attain their denied rights.

Oil Minister Views OPEC Meeting Prospects

LD011238 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec, IRNA—Oil minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said here Tuesday that in the forthcoming OPEC oil ministers session Iran will endorse no decision which should fall short of compensating for the slump in dollar value.

Speaking at a press conference Aqazadeh said that current instability in oil market is caused by irresponsible and tension creating moves of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and other members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council.

Following the July 31 massacre of hajj pilgrims in Mecca, he added such measures were expected. These countries glutted the market so that oil price will not go up. Furthermore, he added, these countries have been trying to mar the opinion of OPEC members by such unfounded accusations that Iran was selling oil at a discount.

According to the Iranian oil minister the December 9 Vienna OPEC meet will be a difficult one in which Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and their supporters will attempt to damage the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran by pushing for lower oil prices. He said these countries will jeopardize their own interests in a bid to appease the U.S. He added such members in OPEC will oppose Iranian policies and will work to damage interests of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran in previous OPEC session had warned members of the negative consequences of price cuts, and fluctuation in value of the dollar and had proposed replacing the dollar with other currencies.

In order to make the next OPEC meeting successful, which Aqazadeh doubted, he said a suitable production ceiling must be adopted which will result in market stability. Iran will press for price stability and increase in prices so that it will compensate for dollar depreciation.

When asked about possibility of Japanese embargo on purchase of Iranian oil, he said that there is yet no indication of its likelihood.

On renting drilling rigs from the Soviets for use at the Caspian Sea, Aqazadeh said that the drilling operations will start shortly as interlude to future operations at the Caspian Sea.

Velayati Receives Departing Italian Ambassador

LD011804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] At the end of his mission in Tehran, the Italian ambassador met with Foreign Minister Velayati this morning. In this meeting the Italian ambassador referred to his attempts to expand relations and to better understand the realities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and expressed his satisfaction with the expansion of bilateral relations.

Velayati also voiced his satisfaction with the existing economic cooperation. Referring to the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf, he said: The United States will certainly be forced to withdraw its forces from the region in disgrace. However, we do not expect countries which have friendly relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran to involve themselves in America's expansionist policies or to create tension in their long-term relations with us.

Meets With Australian Envoy

LD011806 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA—Outgoing Australian Ambassador in Tehran John Leslie Lander, conferred with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Tuesday.

The Australian envoy expressing satisfaction with expansion of Tehran-Canberra relations pointed to his efforts at promoting bilateral ties and better understanding of the facts about the Islamic Republic of Iran in his country.

In response, Velayati expressed satisfaction with the existing economic cooperation between Iran and Australia.

The foreign minister pointing to the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf emphasised that U.S. forces will definitely be driven out of the region in disgrace. The Islamic Republic does not expect friendly countries to involve themselves in U.S. hatched plots and as a result strain their long standing relations with Iran, Velayati told the Australian envoy.

Mo'ayeri, Sudanese Ambassador Discuss Relations

LD301908 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA—Sudan attaches great importance to its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and is keen on strengthening bilateral cooperation, Sudanese Ambassador to Tehran Ibrahim Ahmad 'Uthman Hamra told Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri here today.

Hamra said in the meeting that expansion of mutual relations is to the benefit of both the Muslim countries, noting that foundations of bilateral cooperation were established by a letter of understanding inked during Sudanese Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's visit to Iran last year.

In response Mo'ayeri referring to Al-Mahdi's successful visit here, stressed on frequent meetings between the two countries' officials.

Iran and Sudan enjoy great potentials for expansion of economic and cultural cooperation, said Mo'ayeri adding, these potentials should be fully exploited to firm bilateral ties.

Mo'ayeri Assails French 'Propaganda'

LD301901 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30 IRNA—Iranian Embassy interpreter in Paris Vahid Gorji and French Consul in Tehran Jean Paul Torri, were exchanged in Karachi, Pakistan, today afternoon.

Torri was flown to Karachi on board a chartered airplane and was handed over to French officials at the airport. Gorji who had arrived there earlier from Paris, boarded the same aircraft and as per the last reports is flying to Tehran.

Political dispute between Paris and Tehran termed by the media as "war of embassies" started last July when a French judge summoned Iranian interpreter Vahid Gorji to the court "as witness" for some explanations concerning a wave of bomb explosions in Paris, in 1986.

The summon, followed by Gorji's refusal to attend the court proceedings, as well as the resulting consequences led to the cordoning off of both countries' embassies in each others' capitals.

It was the French Government which initiated the embassy seige by stationing its security forces and police and sealing of the Islamic Republic's Embassy in Paris, even banning staffers from entering and leaving. Understandably Iran followed suit as a retaliatory measure.

The deadlock was finally resolved when Gorji was acquitted by the French judge before he was exchanged with Torri.

In an interview with IRNA here today, Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri said Gorji's acquittal by French judicial officials disproved the baseless propaganda launched by certain French factions, aiming to tarnish the image of Iranian representatives.

The present outlook of ranking French officials according to Mo'ayeri is "a sign of the total defeat of the propaganda of these vested factions."

He confirmed that before the exchange took place the French Government through various channels had cabled messages showing its keenness to mend fences with Iran. "Agreements have already been reached through negotiations about resolving the 'embassies dispute' as well as financial issues," he added.

Reports reaching here said "more favourable grounds" seem to have been prepared for restoration of bilateral relations following the negotiations, while Mo'ayeri says despite the snapping of Tehran-Paris ties, the way has been paved for a resumption of relations although at a 'desirable level'. He also expressed hope that this defusing of tension—a reference to the swapping of Gorji with Torri—wouuld help resolve the issue.

Pakistan, Mo'ayeri said, was selected as a third country for carrying out the exchange since it is a friend of Iran.

After the breaking of diplomatic relations between the two countries Pakistan is handling Iran's interests in Paris while Italy takes care of French interests in Tehran. The "war of embassies" eventually resulted in the break of diplomatic ties between Iran and France on 18 July.

As diplomatic disputes escalated between the two countries, the French consul in Tehran Torri was summoned to the Islamic Revolution Tribunal on 14 July for some explanations. He was accused of engaging in espionage activities against Iran, smuggling of antiques as well as collaborating with smuggling networks.

The French daily '*Liberation*' in its July 5 issue had termed charges against Gorji as "result of the poisonous atmosphere and France's becoming of a stooge". Mo'ayeri, commenting on the above statement, expressed satisfaction that world public opinion has finally realised the truth of Iranian statements and the falsity of the Western media's baseless propaganda tirade.

Military Training for Qom Seminary Clergy

*NC010737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] More than 4000 clergymen of the Qom Theological Seminary have received intensive military training and instruction. The Central News Unit reports that this was announced by an official of the Theological Seminary Clergymen's Mobilization Center. The official also spoke about defense training for non-Iranian clergymen and said: The non-Iranian theological students and clergymen of the Qom Theological Seminary have often expressed their desire to receive defense training and to be sent to the fronts of the war of good against evil. On the basis of programs that have been compiled, an independent brigade of Afghan clergymen and theological students is now being organized. This is in addition to programs already in existence for the military organization of Iraqi theological students and clergymen.

SAIRI Members Affirm Readiness To Fight Iraq

*NC010720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] Participants in the Congress of the Mobilization of Iraqi Forces sent a cable to Imam Khomeyni at the end of the congress. In the cable, the participants express their full readiness to continue the struggle against the Zionist regime of Iraq and to implement the directives issued by the Supreme War Support Council. The cable also states that members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] have decided to set up military training and dispatch centers and to establish a fund in all SAIRI branches which will provide assistance to the Iraqi mujahidin and the financial jihad.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraqis Pounded in 'Nasr-9' Zone

*LD011417 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT
1 Dec 87*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters pounded Iraqi troop concentration sites in Nopardan [placename as received], "Nasr-9" operational theater Hajj 'Umran, and also west of Maymak region in three separate sorties today.

According to the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces all planes returned safely to bases after inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Communique No 3,037

*LD011604 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT
1 Dec 87*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1 IRNA—Iranian jet fighters flew three separate sorties Tuesday heavily bombing Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites in the operational regions of Sumar, Maymak, in the western sector, and in the "Nasr-9" theater in Hajj 'Umran region, northeastern Iraq, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Announcing the above, the 3037th Joint Staff Communique reported here Tuesday that the fighters returned safely to bases after successfully carrying out the missions which took place at 11:00, 11:15 and 12:00 hours local time (07:30, 07:45 and 08:30 GMT).

In the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched six cargo ships and oil tankers Monday, but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain of their cargo and destinations.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Hajj 'Umran, where a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three enemy tanks, a missile pad and several gun emplacements and observation posts were destroyed.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts Monday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting ablaze 15 emplacements of various weapons of theirs.

In Sumar, Nahr 'Anbar, Qasr-e Shirin and Panjwin, western and northwestern sectors, Iranian artillery fire inflicted heavy losses on several Iraqi tanks Monday.

The artillery fire of the Muslim forces checked movement of Iraqi motorized columns in Mehran, Khosravi, Helaleh and east of Basra, western and southern fronts, and enemy engineering operations in Sumar Monday, concluded the communique.

IRGC, Kurds Destroy Power Station

LD020848 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 2, IRNA—Muslim militias of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) and Peshmergas of Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) destroyed a 230-kw power transfer station in Shaqlawah, Irbil Province of Iraq on November 27. In the wake of the operations the Iraqi cities Rawanduz, Harir, Diyanah and other cities in the province plunged into total black-out.

Iraqi air force later strafed several villages near Shaqlawah city in Irbil and Al-Sulaymaniyah killing or wounding scores of children and women, according to the IRGC.

Iraqi Positions in Sumar Bombed

LD021034 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 2, IRNA—Iran's aircraft bombed Iraqi concentration centers in Sumar Operational Region, Central Front, at 10:00 hours local time (06:30 GMT) Wednesday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops.

All planes returned to bases safely.

Tudeh Party Issues Statement on War

Part I

LD011731 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Part I of the Tudeh Party statement: "Toward Securing the Comprehensive Unity of the Masses To End the Tragic War," issued by the Tudeh Party Central Committee Political Board; date and place not given]

[Text] The war between Iran and Iraq has reached a stalemate. This war can now be described as a spreading and [words indistinct] war of the region, is in its 7th year and is one of the most dangerous sources of instability and a tragic development in the region. This war is characterized by extremely reactionary objectives and the destruction of material and spiritual gains and [words indistinct] of the two countries involved. Its continuation is at the cost of heavy human losses, and deep and painful social and psychological damage, and is [words indistinct] serving to protect the interests of reactionaries, imperialists, and Zionists on the national, regional, and world level.

The deceptive ballyhoo of the warmongering rulers of the Islamic Republic about ending the war in the past year—which was endorsed by the White House security advisers in their secret negotiations and in return for weapons and military and satellite intelligence—clearly shows the [words indistinct] hegemonistic efforts of the regime to export the Islamic Revolution to Iraq.

With the exposure of the secret cooperation between the Islamic Republic and the United States, Irangate, it was clear that, although the United States provides the rulers of the clerical regime with weapons and military intelligence objectives, its actions in no way indicate its abandoning the reactionary rulers of Arab countries or a weakening of the U.S. position in regional Arab countries. Rather, according to the available evidence, the United States has tried to keep the flames of the Iran-Iraq war alive in order to maintain the economic and military dependence of the two countries involved [words indistinct] imperialism and, at the same time, revive its lost influence in the two countries and achieve its strategic objectives in the Near and Middle East, particularly the Persian Gulf. [passage indistinct]

The United States overtly came to the arena to defend the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf against the threats of the Islamic Republic and, step by step, it became one of the participants in the Iran-Iraq war. In fact, the renewal of the tanker war in the Persian Gulf this summer stemmed from the stalemate in the 7-year Iran-Iraq war. By escorting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers, the United States used this situation as an excuse to intensify its military presence in the region with an unprecedented concentration of warships which, together with its allies' warships, now number more than 80. It should be stressed here that only because of the warmongering and hegemonist rulers of Iran's insistance on continuing the war has the United States been able to take important steps in implementing the Pentagon's longstanding strategic plan to increase its military presence in the Near East, particularly in the Persian Gulf region. Taking advantage of the stormy circumstances in the Persian Gulf, the United States has transferred the joint staff of its four Rapid Deployment Forces to a location inside the Persian Gulf to take effective command of military operations.

Now the United States is trying to physically transfer the naval, ground, and air force headquarters to the countries in the southern and southwestern parts of Asia and Africa. At the same time, thanks to the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war, Washington is trying to involve its NATO allies on a large scale in joint military operations in locations outside the coverage of the aggressive NATO Treaty, thus preparing the ground for the formation and establishment of a joint military force from imperialist countries.

The United States' influence was weakened after the victory of the 1979 revolution over our country, as was the domination of other Arab countries of the Persian Gulf region over the oil fields. Now, the United States, on the pretext of defending Arab countries against ever-increasing threats by the Islamic Republic, has increased its domination. This domination has been established over these countries and the oil wells, and counts as an effective weapon for exerting pressure on the United States' West European allies, Japan, and independent developing countries. Therefore, according to a general formula, it can be categorically stated that the United States owes the realization of its longstanding strategic and world domineering objectives in the Near East and the Persian Gulf to the reactionary and warmongering policies of the religious leader's regime.

The adventurist rulers of the Islamic Republic, aware of the outstanding service they have done to the interests of the U.S. imperialism in the critical Persian Gulf region, continue to insist on prolonging the stalemated war to achieve the expansionist aim of exporting the Islamic Republic. For them, Saddam's fall at any price and in any form will serve to explain the policy of exporting the Islamic Revolution. In answer to the fuss created by such a false victory, the regime will be further protected. Khomeyni's strong opposition to ending the war in line with the Security Council's Resolution 598, which was reflected in his hajj message and in his insistence on continuing the war until victory—which was then endorsed by the commanders of the Revolution Guards Corps all over the country at their meeting with Khomeyni and in the "O Imam, We Respond to Your Call" seminar—showed the yes man diplomacy of government officials in their approach toward Resolution 598. It was made clear that in political negotiations, one should think only of fulfilling aims. The regime has up to now used military means to implement them, not democratic means.

The failure of all the attempts that have been made so far by international bodies and organizations—such as the UN Security Council, the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union, the nonaligned countries, the World Peace Council, and hundreds of workers and democratic parties and organizations throughout the world—to put an end to the destructive Iran-Iraq war is, first of all, due to the obstinacy of the regime of the Islamic Republic.

At the moment, the Iran-Iraq war is continuing in the region and, if more extensive efforts are not made to limit and eliminate it, it can have serious consequences for the peace and security of the world. A predictable military clash between the United States and the Islamic Republic after the events following the Irangate issue has given rise to very complicated and related problems inside and outside the country. Under these circumstances, the important point is to understand the nature of the conflict between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States in the Persian Gulf in order to adopt an appropriate political stance.

As the course of events demonstrates, the United States with its strategic globalist aims and the Islamic Republic with its expansionist aims to dominate the Persian Gulf littoral states are on a crash course. An explanation of the motives and mechanisms of this conflict to the masses would prevent them from confusing the anti-imperialist struggles of workers and peasants and other laborers with the deceptive ballyhoo of the regime against the United States, and would also prevent the weakening of the necessity of the masses' struggle against the regime.

Dear listeners, Tudeh comrades! What you heard was a part of the statement of the Political Board of the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran for securing the all-round unity of the masses to end the tragic war. The next part of this statement can be heard in the next program.

Part II

LD012329 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Part II of the Tudeh Party statement: "Toward Securing Comprehensive Unity of the Masses To End the Tragic War," issued by the Tudeh Party Central Committee Political Board; date and place not given]

[Text] Our party appreciates its grave duty to maintain peace and security all over the world and to save the people from the tragic consequences of the war, which is one of the most important factors for the tension-creating presence of the United States in the region. Our party believes that the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the American and NATO fleets from the

Persian Gulf and an immediate cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war are the basic conditions for restoring peace and security in the entire region. At this point, it is necessary to stress that in trying to end the Iran-Iraq war, contrary to the regime's propaganda, there is no similarity between the peaceseeking desire of the revolutionary and democratic forces inside the country and the global peaceloving forces on the one hand, and the peaceloving appearance of U.S. imperialism and its allies on the other. These two intentions differ in nature and in appearance. The peaceloving claims of U.S. imperialism, like the anti-imperialist pose of the clerical regime, are false and it is the constant duty of the combative revolutionary forces to fight against them. U.S. imperialism and its allies, in accordance with their aggressive nature and their strategic and hegemonistic interests, find that it is in their favor to create and maintain centers of war and tension in the Near and Middle East, including the Persian Gulf. On the surface they talk of peace, but in practice they fan the flames of the deteriorating situation. Although the United States, under the pressure of world public opinion and the efforts of world peaceloving countries and forces, has accepted UN Security Council Resolution 598 in practice, by its constantly increasing presence in the Persian Gulf it has flagrantly violated this resolution and has exposed its so-called peaceloving nature to the world. It is obvious that this opportunistic policy is openly against the peaceloving and tension-reducing policy of the progressive and peaceloving forces, which has a strategic progressive and anti-imperialist target.

O compatriots! O toiling brothers and sisters! Our homeland is going through a sensitive period. The warmongering policy, which is one of the inseparable articles of the socioeconomic policy of the clerical regime, is seriously threatening the present and future fate of society and Iranian citizens. In this connection, particular attention should be paid to the danger arising from religious militarism, which is continuing its daily cancerous growth with chauvinistic and pan-Islamic ideology. Religious militarism, which was originally formed as the arms of the clerical regime in the Guards Corps and the committees, has today taken root in all economic, social, and political sectors of our society as a solid system, thanks to the blessing of the 8-year-old war. Now the Guards Corps, as the center of religious militarism, is the pulse of the regime's militaristic policies. The planning and directing of military operations; expansion of military industries; alteration of the production lines; supply of cannon fodder from the productive units; government departments and institutions; villages, schools, and universities; important arms purchases and organization of the arms smuggling network on the imperialist markets are all supervised by the Guards Corps.

Outside this circle, the Armed Forces of mobilization and committees, the Islamic associations, the intelligence organs of the clerical regime, and such foundations as the Construction Jihad, the Foundation of the Oppressed, the Martyrs' Foundation, the Foundation of the War Refugees, and similar establishments are active, each of which is in charge of carrying out the repressive and oppressive economic and social policies of religious militarism. The trend toward militarizing the ruling organs to use their great financial, social, and human facilities under the supervision and organizational structure of military centers is continuing as the ideology of religious militarism.

Since the new Armed Forces law was ratified, the regime has been trying to draw the personnel of the Armed Forces into the all-encompassing realm of religious militarism. This same policy is being applied to the police and the Gendarmerie. At present, apart from the mobilization forces, the regime, by amassing more than 1.5 million people in the ranks of the Army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the committees, the police, and the Gendarmerie, on the battlefronts and behind the battlefronts—most of whom are young—is turning the active and productive forces of the country into a consumer force. Even now, a large section of workers and toiling peasants, engineers, doctors, students, teachers and lecturers, technical and scientifitic cadres, and in general, productive and experienced and specialized forces are serving the demon of war on and behind the battlefronts.

Production lines of many of the country's factories have been altered to cater to the various needs of the battlefronts. The government's great investments in setting up assembly plants for military purposes, which people have been deceived into calling self-sufficiency in weapons, is going ahead at a quicker pace. State ministries and institutions intentionally implement projects and programs that are related to the war. The university and college labs, and the rest of the scientific institutions are active in meeting the needs of the war. The various foundations favored by the regime, and also the Foundation of the Deprived which has taken under its control huge areas of the industrial, agricultural, and service sectors, are chiefly at the disposal of the war. Oil continues to be the central factor in solving the monetary and currency problems of the sick militaristic economy.

In order to get foreign currency, the regime is selling oil at $1-2 per barrel cheaper. In order to secure the necessary foreign exchange to purchase the arms it needs, the government is even exporting at reduced prices limited industrial and agricultural products produced domestically for internal consumption, and then it imports those very same products from the markets of imperialist countries and their satellites, such as Pakistan and Turkey, by auctioning its oil. The sum total of these destructive events demonstrates that the war has severely damaged the independent national economy and has had a negative impact on society's economic and social development. The destruction of many of the important industrial and economic installations during bombing raids; the closing down of a large number of the productive industries as a consequence of the regime's militaristic policy and the lack of primary material; the mass expulsion of the workers in these units, driving them to the ranks of the 5 million-strong army of the unemployed, has in general had very heavy and irreparable damaging effects on the growth of industrial workers and the full formation of the social and class structure in cities and villages and on the democratic progress of society. Moreover, this has held back by years our homeland from the timely reconstruction of society and its healthy economic and social growth.

These anti-social crimes are only a part of the militaristic policy of the clerical regime within the framework of the Iran-Iraq war. If the regime is allowed to continue its destructive war, not only will regional and world peace and security be seriously jeopardized, but this war will provide the opportunity for the regime to implement its general militaristic policy, which is disastrous to the present and future state of the country and of the million masses of toilers.

The general warmongering and militaristic policy of the clerical regime—of which the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war is but one manifestation of its dangerous and dire consequences—has provided important grounds for crushing the revolutionary democratic movement of our homeland and the masses of the region. This policy continues to strengthen and fortify the positions of reaction and imperialism in the two warring countries and in the Near and Middle East and results in the rejection of the achievements of the past decades of the masses of the region in their confrontation with imperialism and reaction.

The unprecedented tension in the Persian Gulf has provided the opportunity, notably to Israeli Zionists, to capitalize on the involvement of Arab countries in the Iran-Iraq war and to embark on their aggressions and oppressive measures in Lebanon and the occupied territories more actively than before. It has also enabled them to place obstacles in the path of reviving and securing the violated rights of the Palestinian people and of securing the democratic and free destiny of this oppressed people. The adventurist policy of the regime in continuing the Iran-Iraq war has, in its turn, helped a great deal in strengthening the positions of reactionary forces in imperialist countries and countries affiliated with them in the region. Therefore, an immediate end to the war, in accordance with the wish of the million-strong masses of toilers of our homeland, would be a deadly blow to the expansionist and religious militarism of the regime and would bring about the (?recovery) of the forces of peace, democracy, and social progress throughout the region. The heroic people of Iran who have always had a pioneering and prominent role in the turmoil-stricken decades of the 20th century—notably within the radius of the Near and Middle East—in the liberation struggle, can, through serious confrontation with the wild clerical reaction, accomplish their worthy role in defeating the hand-in-hand conspiracies of reaction and imperialism and in strengthening the positions of peaceloving, progressive, and democratic forces in the region.

Final Part

LD021509 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 2 Dec 87

[Final part of Tudeh Party statement: "Toward Securing Comprehensive Unity of the Masses To End the Tragic War," issued by the Tudeh Party Central Committee Political Board in the "month of Azar" (22 November-21 December 1987); place not given]

[Text] Compatriots, revolutionary and democratic, progressive and peaceloving forces of the homeland, the war-mongering regime of the Islamic Republic, having resorted to various tactics for the past 4 months to delay acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598 on a cease-fire and a return to recognized international borders, on identifying the initiator of the war, and on withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf, is now on the threshold of launching another mass offensive on Iraqi territory in the second half of this year. During this period the regime has ceaselessly mobilized its forces and equipped them in order to achieve its expansionist objectives by making secret deals with imperialist sources and exerting pressure on international bodies and associations. Now that the regime has failed in its political approach of exporting the Islamic Revolution to Iraq at a time when the war is in a stalemate, it has found the escalation of the war all along the war fronts to be the only way to blackmail the world, to crush dissent among the masses, to hide the intense rifts within the leadership and the increasing problems inside the country, and to escape the isolating pressure by peaceloving countries and forces.

One of the peculiarities of the regime's warmongering [words indistinct] at the present is the misuse of anti-U.S. slogans to encourage the mobilization and deployment of its forces to the fronts of death and blood. Therefore, revolutionary forces and activists have an important duty in exposing to the simple people the deceitful face of the regime. This point should be carefully analyzed for them so that political confrontations and the fight between the Islamic Republic and the United States, which stems from Irangate, does not have an anti-imperialist nature. Rather, it is the confrontation between two reactionary and aggressive policies of imperialism and the Islamic Republic. Their similar nature in fact serves to safeguard the interests of imperialism, reaction, and Zionism in the region and in the world. Despite vast propaganda and the efforts the regime has made in order to embark on a major offensive on Iraqi soil, an immensely suitable reason for intensifying the mobilization and organization of the people against the war and the war-mongering regime has been provided, because the regime, with its oppressive and stifling policies imposing extreme poverty on the toiling masses inside the country—while following an antipeace and tension-creating policy abroad—is now more exposed and isolated than ever.

The formation of the Supreme War Support Council, which has been placed at the top of all government organizations, in order to restart the regime's stalled war machine; the 10-point statement issued by that council about physical and financial jihad which aims only at milking the already stripped people; the forced dispatch of workers, farmers, students, pupils, hardworking employees of government departments and institutions, small shopowners and craftsmen to the war fronts—all demonstrate the bankruptcy of the regime's war-mongering policy in connection with the voluntary dispatch of forces and the dire financial straits of the regime in trying to run the country's affairs and to meet the back-breaking expenses of the war.

The 10-point order issued by the Supreme War Support Council headed by the physical and financial jihad, which is the manifestation of the destructive war to the last drop of blood and to the last brick policy, will serve to expand the self-initiated force of protest by the toiling masses especially among workers, impoverished employees, the bare and hungary masses dweling in shanty towns, pupils and students, small shop owners and craftsmen, soldiers and patriotic personnel of the Armed Forces. On this basis it could be categorically said that our country, suffering from terrifying problems of the war and the extreme powerty of the masses, is on the eve of a huge wave of dissent and protest against the destructive war and the war-mongering regime. But this in itself is not enough to finish the work and yield results. This self-initiated uprising in dissent and protest needs to be mobilized and organized by the revolutionary and democratic forces on the basis of their closely planned cooperation.

If today the regime is able to impose its tyranical will on the masses, it is mainly because of the absence of powerful and united opposition which would be able to organize the scattered efforts of the huge masses of people. Our party, having understood the determining part played by intellectual elements in organizing the struggle of the masses of the people, has called on all revolutionary and democratic, peace-loving and progressive forces to join the common efforts against the war-mongering policies of the regime which are seriously threatening the present and the future of the two countries involved, as well as peace in the region and the world. Our party is prepared to use all its facilities, power, and force in order to shape such a practical unity.

Forming joint secret antiwar committees and also making use of all other forms and ways of possible struggle in factories, villages, offices, schools, universities, districts, localities, regions, garrisons, and on the fronts constitute a practical and important step in effectively organizing the antiwar struggle of dissenting, if scattered, masses. Clearly each day's delay in responding to this nondeferrable call for a general antiwar uprising will provide the helpless rulers of this trouble-making and adventurist regime the opportunity to exploit the government facilities, while relying on their oppressive terror machine, to create a psychological war-seeking climate and to inflict greater tragedies on the people of our homeland.

Organizing the dissent and people's uprising and protest to attack the fronts and refuse to make any financial or physical donation to the regime's war machine, boycotting the physical and financial jihad declared by the warmongers, and fighting for and encouraging the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 on putting an end to this destructive war, are the most immediate aims in preparing the ground for a greater objective, breaking the regime's war machine and returning to struggle in peaceful conditions.

Go forward toward securing the comprehensive unity of the masses for preventing the [word indistinct] madness of the war-mongers, ending the destructive war between Iran and Iraq, expelling the warships of the United States and its allies from the Persian Gulf region, and restoring peace and security to the country and to this burning and explosive region.

[Signed] The Tudeh Party Central Committee Political Board of the Tudeh Party of Iran

[Dated] Month of Azar 66 [22 November-21 December 1987]